Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-192
Wednesday
6 October 1993

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-192 *6 October 1993*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.
An Ω indicates a Foreign Media Note.

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Robaina Views Reactions to UN Speech *[Havana Radio]* 1
Havana Accuses U.S. of 'Genocide' in Somalia *[Havana Radio]* 2
Sources 'Close to' Aidid Say Eight U.S. Soldiers Held *[Havana Radio]* 2
Nonaligned Countries Support Cuba in Blockade Protest *[Havana Radio]* 2
Robaina Addresses Group of 77 at United Nations *[Havana Radio]* 2
Vice Foreign Minister Meets With PRC Officials *[Havana Radio]* 3
Commentator Sees Political Logic in Yeltsin's Victory *[Havana Radio]* 3
Mexico's Quintana Roo Governor Arrives for Talks *[Havana Radio]* 3
Shops Created as Worker Incentives in Guantanamo *[Havana Radio]* 4
Cienfuegos, Ciguatey, Santa Elena Form UBPC's *[Havana TV]* 4

Haiti

Aristide Grants Full Amnesty to Coup Participants *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 4
Curfew in Effect in Lascahobas Until Further Notice *[LE NOUVELLISTE 4 Oct]* 4
Radio Nationale Employees Ignore Communique on Closing *[LE NOUVELLISTE 4 Oct]* 5
Government Appoints New Television, Radio Directors *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Slaughter of Aristide Partisans Allegedly 'Impending' *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Court Assault Victim Recounts Events, Attackers Escape *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Port-au-Prince Mayor's Guards Involved in Shooting *[Madrid EFE]* 5

Jamaica

Patterson Calls for Constitution Reform *[CANA]* 6

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

PM's Meant 'No Offense' by Al Gore Meeting Boycott *[CANA]* 7

NAFTA

Pacific Basin Council President on NAFTA, Investments *[NOTIMEX]* 8

MEXICO

Solana Meets With Ukrainian Foreign Ministers *[Mexico City TV]* 9

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Mexican Trade Negotiations End With Proposal Exchange *[ACAN]* 10

Guatemala

Group Targets 23 Renowned Citizens for Execution *[NOTIMEX]* 10

Nicaragua

Chamorro News Conference on Return From U.S. *[Managua Radio]* 10
3-80 Front Threatens To Attack 3 Northern Cities *[NOTIMEX]* 16
UNO Coordinator on Talks With FSLN; 7 Oct Meeting *[Managua Radio]* 16
Ortega Comments UNO Meeting *[Managua Radio]* 17

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Menem Discusses Constitutional Amendment, Reelection *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 18
Menem Denies Possible Impediment in Duhalde Candidacy *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 18
Eduardo Duhalde Resumes JP Leadership *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 18
Article Views Voters' Support for Center-Left Parties *[PAGINA/12 4 Oct]* 18
Names of New Congressional Deputies Listed *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 5 Oct]* 19

Bolivia

New Police General Staff Members Installed *[LA RAZON 28 Sep]* 20

Brazil

Bolivian Choppers Enter Airspace; U.S. Involved *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 21
Supreme Court Annuls Constitutional Revision Session *[Brasilia Radio]* 21
Israeli Deputy Minister Meets Brazilian Counterpart *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 21
Minister: Measures, Settlement of Public Accounts *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 21
Army Participation in Antidrug Fight Noted *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 3 Oct]* 22

Chile

Aylwin on Human Rights Violations, Demonstration *[Santiago Radio]* 22
Russian Housing, Finance Ministry Officials Visit *[Santiago Radio]* 23
Government Ratifies Convention on Net Fishing *[Santiago Radio]* 23
New Zealand Signs Antarctic Cooperation Declaration *[Santiago Radio]* 23
PCCh Head Teitelboim on Rapprochement to PSCh *[Santiago Radio]* 23
Pinochet Visits Brazil, Israel Trip Unconfirmed *[Santiago Radio]* 24

Colombia

Prosecutor on Drug Traffickers, U.S. Cooperation *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24
AD/M-19 Leader Presents Commitments If Elected *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24
Socialist Renewal Movement Wants Talks To Resume *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 24

Paraguay

Oviedo Dismisses Coup Rumors, Silent About Carter *[NOTICIAS 5 Oct]* 25

Peru

Fujimori Interviewed on Guzman Letter *[Lima TV]* 25
Army Commander Says Terrorism 'On the Run' *[Lima TV]* 30
Dincote Reports Arrest of Lima Shining Path Leader *[AFP]* 30
* Yoshiyama: Economy 'Heart' of Constitution *[EL COMERCIO 12 Sep]* 31
* Campaign for Constitutional Reform Under Way 32
* Fujimori: Not Political Campaign *[EL COMERCIO 19 Sep]* 32
* 'No Public Funds' *[EXPRESO 9 Sep]* 32
* C90 Leader: Job Security Goal *[EXPRESO 9 Sep]* 33
* Joy Way: Yes for Stability *[LA REPUBLICA 10 Sep]* 33
* Community Leaders Roundtable on Constitution *[EL PERUANO 6 Sep]* 34

Uruguay

Foreign Minister Rejects Protectionism *[Montevideo Radio]* 37

Venezuela

Students Set Bus Ablaze, Disrupt Traffic *[Madrid EFE]* 38
Military Command Discuss Persistent Coup Rumors *[EL NACIONAL 2 Oct]* 38
Presidential Candidate Alvarez Interviewed *[Caracas Radio]* 39

Cuba

Robaina Views Reactions to UN Speech

FL0510141993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Telephone interview with Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina in New York by journalist Roberto Cavada in Havana—live]

[Text] [Robaina] Good morning, Cavada.

[Cavada] Good morning, minister. Greetings from Havana.

[Robaina] Greetings from here, too.

[Cavada] I was just talking with my colleague Guillermo [not further identified] about the reactions elicited by your speech, by the Cuban position at the 48th UN Assembly. I want to tell you that Radio Rebelde yesterday carried your speech live at 1115. Several people called the radio and a debate among journalists ensued. They focused on some of the topics you discussed at the plenary session. This morning, a U.S. news television network reported on your speech and even carried some excerpts of it.

Guillermo was telling us that a number of delegates from various countries greeted you after your speech. What is your impression about all this? Can you tell us from which countries were the delegates who came to greet you at the plenary session?

[Robaina] I was aware of the reactions to my speech, especially the way in which the Cuban radio and press carried it. I would not say that the reactions have gone beyond our expectations because, as far as Cuba is concerned, there is already a tradition that has been won with work, efforts, words, and deeds. I believe our deeds are always making us much more convincing and we feel satisfied about the support we have earned.

It was very encouraging at the plenary session that between 40 and 50 delegates from various countries, from every corner of the earth, came and lent us their solidarity. I believe their solidarity was not precisely directed to my speech, but was, above all, a clear support for the position taken by our entire people. I believe this is what was strongly reaffirmed there.

In any case, I believe this represents a very special recognition because it marks a departure from established rules, myths, and tradition. I believe that, in practice, all this has to do with taking votes because we regard as a commitment for us these delegates' public endorsement of the Cuban position, which was expressed in the name of the peoples of the Third World.

Our delegation has received many, systematic expressions of support since the plenary session. This is how we take these actions. I would say all this is very encouraging.

[Cavada] Minister, I believe expressions of support also materialized yesterday afternoon at the meeting of foreign ministers of the Nonaligned Movement.

[Robaina] That was another very interesting meeting. In their final communique, the nonaligned ministers again voiced their strong support for our struggle against the blockade. The entire Nonalignment Movement, absolutely everyone, endorsed our position. This also shows that our cause is just. We will soon be participating in a meeting of the Group of 77, which will focus on many issues of interest to the group, especially the blockade.

Yesterday and today, days in which speeches are scheduled, are the busiest days for us. After each speech, we have a long list of engagements, including meetings with foreign ministers, groups, businessmen, with many people who are greatly interested in what we are facing and doing in Cuba.

[Cavada] Yes. I imagine you have to do all that in a rather cold weather, as our correspondents told us.

[Robaina] Yes, it is somewhat cold, but we overcome it with our busy schedule and with what we have to convey....

[Cavada, interrupting] Human warmth....

[Robaina] Irrespective of the cold weather or the busy schedule, what we are doing in Cuba is much more difficult and complex.

[Cavada] Yes, of course. Finally, Minister, can you tell us when the blockade issue will be discussed and when the UN secretary general will give his report to the plenary session? What plans have been made about the debate?

[Robaina] All that is now in a preparatory stage, which includes every step we are taking and all these discussions. We are in the process of drafting the text of the resolution we are proposing. On 3 November, the UN secretary general will be summitting his report and we will be submitting our proposal.

Prior to 3 November, we will be discussing our proposal with other delegations. We will be closely following the session of 3 November from whereever we are. Our people in particular must be aware of this. I believe conditions are conducive for us to begin using the support we have earned, above all, with the wonderful and courageous way in which our people have not only resisted, but have also found solutions to their problems.

[Cavada] Minister, thank you very much. We are very grateful to you for having spared us this time. We know you were already leaving the diplomatic mission for the streets, for other places in New York to keep a number of engagements. I repeat our thanks to you, in the name of the Cuban people who have been following this live interview from New York.

[Robaina] Well, thank you very much. Although we have a busy schedule, talking to you is also a special form of

refueling for us so that we may carry on our activities with far greater enthusiasm. So long, Cavada.

[Cavada] So long.

Havana Accuses U.S. of 'Genocide' in Somalia

FL0510192893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Commentary by Jose Armas]

[Text] While the killings continue in Somalia, there are no clear signals that it could come to an end any time soon. A few days ago, President Clinton announced that the number of U.S. personnel deployed to that African country would be reduced. Contradicting his earlier statement, Clinton has now said that there will be a modest increase in the number of troops. The Pentagon has been more specific: M1 Abrams-type armored battle vehicles, another fleet of C-130 planes [as heard], and some 200 additional troops will be dispatched to Somalia.

The number of U.S. personnel stationed in Somalia is now close to 4,500. A total of 28,000 personnel from 29 countries, under U.S. leadership, are participating in an operation which was allegedly organized for the purpose of saving Somalia from starvation, but which in reality has turned into genocide.

The West usually makes a big fuss when a U.S. soldier is killed, but it barely utters a word of protest when hundreds of Somalis, civilians included, are machine-gunned to death. Thousands of Somalis have been killed since last May, over which the West has kept a virtually complete silence. U.S. political interests and already battered UN prestige must be protected.

Somalia is a typical historical example of relations between weak and powerful countries. Powerful countries are responsible for bringing hunger to weak countries and for starving their people to death. Later, these powerful countries mercilessly kill the people of these weak countries under the pretext of saving them from starvation, which they themselves imposed. This is a vicious circle.

The Somali National Alliance called for a truce in September to avoid further killings, but its request fell on deaf ears. The aspiration for a durable, valid peace thus continues to be a dream. The intervention in Somalia is a crime for which the United States is directly responsible, and the United Nations is the instrument used to commit it.

Sources 'Close to' Aidid Say Eight U.S. Soldiers Held

FL0510235593 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1933 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Eight U.S. soldiers are prisoners of Aidid. Sources close to the Somali rebel chief, General Mohamed Farrah Aidid, have indicated that eight U.S. soldiers belonging to the United Nations forces are in the hands of Gen. Aidid's armed forces [de ese grupo armado]. The militiamen are keeping the soldiers close to Gen. Aidid to avoid possible attacks by the UN Blue Helmets. The U.S. soldiers were captured during the bloody fighting that occurred last Sunday in the Somali capital, when at least 12 American soldiers and one Malaysian soldier, who was also a member of the United Nation's so-called peacekeeping forces, died.

Nonaligned Countries Support Cuba in Blockade Protest

FL0510165493 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] In a communique issued at the United Nations, foreign ministers and heads of delegations of Nonaligned Movement member countries have conveyed their support for Cuba and have taken note of Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina's speech, especially in regard to the U.S. blockade against Cuba. The communique contains several strategies.

Addressing the Nonaligned Movement meeting at the United Nations, Robaina said that it is encouraging to see that the Nonaligned Movement's spirit of solidarity and cooperation has again acquired significance. He said: We now again have a movement that is completely ours, and ours must be those decisions we adopt in solidarity.

Robaina, who heads the Cuban delegation to the 48th UN General Assembly, is keeping a busy schedule at the United Nations.

Robaina Addresses Group of 77 at United Nations

FL0610021993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina highlighted the importance of protecting and strengthening coordinated efforts of the Group of 77 in a time when the Cold War has been extinguished between the former Eastern and Western blocs.

Robaina, who spoke at the 17th meeting of foreign ministers of the Group of 77 held at the United Nations, pointed out that the main problems that brought about the creation of the Group of 77 continue today despite everyone's efforts. Robaina emphasized that the difficult negotiations of the past few years and the prolonged scorn of the North toward the South confirms the importance of the Group of 77 in its role of defending the interests of the poor countries in the face of an increasingly unfair and unequal international order.

Robaina also pointed out that development is not brought about through intermittent economic growth at the expense of social equality, through official aid for development, and least of all, through emergency humanitarian aid. Later in his speech, Robaina

explained that if the moment does not offer the opportunity to begin viable and just initiatives [words indistinct] our interests, they should concentrate the Group of 77's force to reject impositions and distortions and defend the principles established by the group.

Robaina went on to say: We alert everyone to the intention of the North to convert UN programs into an exercise to design, through the United Nations and, of course, from the North, which economic models are considered most adequate for our countries. Robaina warned: They will try to reevaluate the role of the state, supervise our democratic systems, challenge our sovereignties, and judge our cultural and religious values.

Vice Foreign Minister Meets With PRC Officials

FL0510132493 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] On 4 October, Mario Rodriguez, Cuban vice foreign minister, meet in Beijing with Luo Gan, secretary general of the Chinese State Council, to discuss bilateral ties and other issues of mutual interest. Rodriguez had already met with Liu Huaqiu, PRC vice foreign minister, and is scheduled to meet with Assistant Foreign Minister (Wei Chei). The Cuban official arrived in Beijing on 3 October at the head of a Cuban delegation.

Commentator Sees Political Logic in Yeltsin's Victory

FL0510164393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 5 Oct 93

["Our Opinion" commentary by Eduardo Dimas]

[Text] Politics undoubtedly has its own logic. Yet, this logic is not formal, sometimes not even based on reason, because it is subject to events which, in turn, depend on decisions by individuals who may go one way or another, depending on interests or circumstances. This is the reason many prominent figures regard politics as an art rather than a science.

In Russia, the logic of political developments behind the executive-legislative standoff was inevitably leading, given the correlation of forces, to Boris Yeltsin's victory. Bloodshed could have been avoided, but it was not.

When on 21 September Yeltsin announced his decision to dissolve the Russian parliament and to call elections, it was obvious that he had the support of the Russian Armed Forces and of the Western governments, which hastened to make their support known to the international media.

The Russian Government had been needing a showdown for quite some time. In practice, the contradictions between the executive and the legislature made it impossible for the government to rule at a time when the country is undergoing profound changes in its political and economic system: that is, moving from socialism to capitalism, a move unprecedented in history.

In an earlier commentary, I said that Russia has no bourgeois democratic tradition similar to that existing in Western nations because the Russian people moved from Czarist rule to the revolution, to Stalin's distortions, and to the rule of bureaucracy. I also said that it is very difficult for a country with that background to establish a Western-type bourgeois democratic regime, without first going through a rather extended transitional period. During this period, on the one hand, an iron-hand government should impose the changes; on the other, both the rulers and the people should change their way of thinking.

Observers have noted the scant participation of the masses in the above events and the stability existing in the rest of the country. The people have not massively participated anywhere, not even in Moscow, where the main political developments are taking place. A few thousands mobilized in support of Khasbulatov and Rutskoy, and a few tens of thousands in support of Yeltsin. It is as though the majority does not care about what is happening. They are attending to their daily chores as though nothing is happening. Only a large number of youths were dancing on Sunday on the street, a few blocks away from the parliament.

I believe this apathy has to do with the people's disenchantment, with their disappointment about the ongoing changes. Russia is now entering a new stage of its political life. Parliamentary elections, which were called for December, may be postponed until March 1993. A stage in which the government will rule by decree is thus starting. The first two decrees signed by President Yeltsin since the events of 3-4 October ordered the dissolution of the Constitutional Tribunal and the suspension of several opposition magazines and newspapers, such as PRAVDA and SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

This new stage in Russia will be one of a one-man presidential system which, in my opinion, is essential to establish a market economy. To bring out changes in the idiosyncracies and tradition of the Russian people will take much longer. Under these circumstances, the only thing we may wish is that this period may be not be marred by upheavals, by further losses of lives. I am afraid my wish may not come true. The image of flames rising from the parliament buliding marks the end of an era and the beginning of another. This is part of political logic.

Mexico's Quintana Roo Governor Arrives for Talks

FL0510195593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] (Mario Villanueva), governor of Mexico's Quintana Roo State, has arrived in Havana at the invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Government and of the State Committee For Economic Cooperation.

During his second visit to Cuba, (Villanueva) will keep a busy schedule that will include meetings with Cuban

officials in the areas of tourism, agriculture, and cattle farms. (Villanueva) is accompanied by a group of experts, who will work together with their Cuban counterparts.

Shops Created as Worker Incentives in Guantanamo

FL0510231193 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1959 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] With the goal of favoring the most outstanding performers in the coffee and coconut harvests, the cooperative and small farmers sectors and the People's Councils in Guantanamo Province are creating shops as incentives to producers. In the coffee sector, and depending on the number of cans of coffee harvested, workers will have the right to buy [word indistinct] items from the broad range of articles produced by local industries—from shoes, through bicycles, to housing.

This kind of incentive, which varies according to the contribution made in the field, takes on particular importance regarding the current coconut harvest, which has diminished perceptibly in Baracoa, the principal producer, because of the level of consumption of the fruit.

Also, brigades of young rural residents will be formed to contribute to increased cutting, shelling, and harvesting of the coconuts. The members of these brigades will have a right to these benefits.

Cienfuegos, Ciguatey, Santa Elena Form UBPC's

FL0510235493 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Excerpts] Cienfuegos Province has joined the process of forming Basic Cooperative Production Units [UBPC]. Its first UBPC's were formed this weekend. The officialization of these structures began in the noncane sector here, with the formation of three miscellaneous crops UBPC's and two livestock sector UBPC's. [passage omitted] The same scene is repeated in Ciguatey, the smallest cane UBPC in the province, with only 31 caballerias of land. [passage omitted]

At another UPBC, the one in Santa Elena, I conversed with Politburo member Nelson Torres Perez, sugar industry minister, who feels this process has been worthy of note because of its flexibility, its adaptation to each place's individual characteristics:

[Begin recording, fading in] ...the place itself. No place has been rigid. The base-level comrades from the CAI's [agroindustrial complexes] themselves have had the opportunity—through the committees they have created, and with the participation of the administrators of the granges themselves—to analyze the pros and cons of things (?on which) they have to reach a decision. [end recording]

The creation of these units constitutes one of the most outstanding events in the nation's current affairs. I think implementation of these innovations in state agriculture would not have been possible without the transcendental changes in the living conditions of the residents of rural areas [el campesinado], as well as in the very material and technical foundations of agriculture. The very trust placed in the workers who comprise or manage these units is the consequence of a policy that now makes this project a feasible one.

Haiti

Aristide Grants Full Amnesty to Coup Participants

FL0510162093 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] President Aristide signed in Washington a decree granting full and total amnesty to all military personnel and civilians who committed political offenses between 29 September 1991 and 3 July 1993. Article 6 of the Governors Island agreement, signed in July by President Aristide and General Raoul Cedras, provides for this amnesty. The decree was issued on 4 October in Port-au-Prince.

Article 1 reads, quote: Amnesty is granted by the president of the Republic, within the framework of Article 147 of the 1987 Constitution, for political offenses committed on the occasion of the coup d'etat which led to his forced departure into exile and during the period between 29 September 1991 and 3 July 1993.

Article 2: The present decree will be published and executed at the behest of the ministers of justice and interior.

This decree was signed at the Haitian Embassy in Washington on 3 October 1993. [no unquote as heard]

Curfew in Effect in Lascahobas Until Further Notice

FL0510155093 Port-au-Prince LE NOUVELLISTE in French No. 34.639 4 Oct 93 p 12

[From "The Buzz in the News" column: "Curfew in Lascahobas"]

[Text] A curfew has been established in Lascahobas from 0800 PM to 0600 AM for at least one week, says the Tropic FM correspondent in this city.

According to the same source, promilitary slogans displayed on the walls of houses read: "This measure is in effect until further notice."

Radio Nationale Employees Ignore Communique on Closing

FL0510160393 Port-au-Prince LE NOUVELLISTE in French No. 34.639 4 Oct 93 p 12

[From "The Buzz in the News" column]

[Text] Snapping their fingers at the [Ministry of Information, Culture, and Coordination] communique closing Radio Nationale, the employees of this radio station continue to work. Listeners were even able to follow, on the morning of 2 October, a newscast on which the government's communique concerning the closing was read. The government invited "all regular employees of the station to wait patiently for the reopening so they can resume work."

Government Appoints New Television, Radio Directors

FL0510204693 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1500 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Prime Minister Robert Malval and Information Minister Herve Denis nominated new general directors for national television and state radio today.

Frantz Marcelin was appointed television director and (Choizel) Henriquez director of radio. Important security coverage was provided by policemen and military for the installation.

Slaughter of Aristide Partisans Allegedly 'Impending'

FL0510154793 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] A tense situation has prevailed in Hinche for some days. A slaughter of President Aristide partisans is allegedly impending, according to parish priest Father Similo Joseph. In an interview given to a reporter of the HAITIAN PRESS AGENCY on (?1 October), Father Joseph stated that reliable testimony, gathered in various chapels, about such a genocide is convincing enough to be taken seriously. According to his statement, all kinds of weapons have been distributed by those opposed to President Aristide's return to power on 30 September [as] provided for in the Governors Island agreement.

The peasants of Montrouis, as well, informed the press on 4 October of a wide distribution of firearms and machetes in the locality. For some days, the acts of violence perpetrated in broad daylight in Port-au-Prince and in the provinces have been announced in advance, sometimes on the radio.

Court Assault Victim Recounts Events, Attackers Escape

FL0510215393 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Passages within italics in Creole]

[Excerpts] It was the opening of activities at the Audit Supreme Court on 4 October. Armed civilians attacked some of the institution's advisers who were getting ready to initiate the activities. [passage omitted] Let us listen to the testimony of one adviser, broadcast on Tele-Haiti:

[Begin recording] When they illegally confined the most senior member, president of the Court (Duty Mackenzie), my duty as an adviser and an honest citizen, respectful of the law and the Constitution of the Republic, my duty was to bring help and assistance to the president of the court. I was also confined. They made me lie down in dirty water and held a gun to my left ear.

The man peremptorily told me: *I received an order to kill you here. Pean gave me the order to kill you. You are a vagabond, a lavalas, and an Aristide supporter.*

I am making a point of flatly stating that if one hair falls from my head, Mr. Pean will have to deal with my family. That is clear. A word to the wise is enough. *This matter of going around telling people I am a communist, and acting badly, based on the statement that I am a communist. I will not accept it.* [end recording] The unidentified gunmen had time to escape without being caught by the police.

Port-au-Prince Mayor's Guards Involved in Shooting

PA0610055293 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0209 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Report by Herold Jean Francois]

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 5 October (EFE)—There was heavy shooting on 4 October between bodyguards of Port-au-Prince Mayor Evans Paul and members of a Haitian ultrarightist group. No one was hurt in the incident.

The exchange of fire could be heard from the Christopher Hotel, in Bourdon, near Port-au-Prince, where Paul was meeting with directors of schools in the metropolitan area.

Political sources told EFE that they are unaware of the circumstances that may have caused the shootout between Paul's bodyguards and members of the ultrarightist Front for Haiti's Development and Progress [Frente para el Adelanto y el Progreso de Haiti] (FRAPH) when Paul was leaving the hotel. The same sources said the police had to intervene to restore order.

Witnesses also mentioned the possibility that several people could have been kidnapped by FRAPH militants, but those reports have not been officially confirmed.

At a news conference, the FRAPH called a general strike in Haiti on 9 October to force Dante Caputo, the UN and OAS mediator in the Haitian crisis, to leave the country and to demand that Prime Minister Robert Malval create a government with the participation of former Duvalier supporters.

FRAPH leader Louis Jodel Chamblain gave Malval an ultimatum, threatening to paralyze the country in all areas, if he does not accept a government in which the followers of Francois Duvalier will take part.

Meanwhile, the international civilian mission that is currently in Haiti reported an attack on 5 October against employees working for Jean Claude Bajeaux, director of the Human Rights Ecumenical Center.

It was reported that four armed men entered Bajeux's house. Bajeux was not home at the time. The armed men attacked his employees, tied them up, threatened to kill them, and, when they were leaving, shot a neighbor who came to ask what was happening. The man, who was not identified, is in critical condition, according to a communique issued by the UN Civilian Mission.

Bajeux, in statements given to a radio station, condemned the action and pointed out that he had been threatened by telephone in the past few days. Bajeux said all the sectors should understand that is impossible to allow these groups, which in the past used to frighten the entire country, to act. He admitted that his life is threatened, and, therefore, he has been forced to change his residence regularly. On 22 September, Bajeux was the only person who publicly censured the permanent exhibit of Francis Duvalier's personal belongings a the National Mausoleum Museum.

Also, groups of armed civilians attacked vendors of the Tete Boeuf public market in the northern section of Port-au-Prince today, Tuesday. The group of attackers came from the Port-au-Prince Municipal Building, where municipal employees are demanding that they be paid the 11 months of wages owed them by the de facto government that ran the government following the coup d'etat against Aristide on 30 September 1991.

After attacking the market vendors, the armed civilians closed the Port-au-Prince cemetery. "We are going to close all the markets, the cemetery, and we are going to block traffic (of vehicles), and we consider the Prime Minister responsible," the spokesman of a group of municipal employees pointed out.

The employees also shouted threats against Mayor Paul, who was sworn into his post but has had difficulty exercising his functions because of a lack of security. Last week, Paul sent a letter to Police Chief Michael Francois and the Port-au-Prince prosecutor, requesting that they offer him tighter security to be able to work at his post.

Jamaica

Patterson Calls for Constitution Reform

FL0610000393 Bridgetown CANA in English 2138 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 5, CANA—Prime Minister P.J. Patterson is urging that efforts to reform Jamaica's 31-year-old constitution, continue without "too much further loss of time or partisan dithering." Patterson's comments came against the background of disagreements between the opposition Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) and other members of Jamaica's constitutional commission over its handling of a report on the reform programme which was tabled in parliament last week.

The JLP, which like the ruling People's National Party (PNP) had eight members on the 38-member commission, refused to sign the report because a chapter on fundamental rights and freedoms had been left out. In a letter to Patterson on the weekend, JLP leader Edward Seaga suggested that a joint select committee of parliament which oversees the commission be convened immediately to grant an extension of time.

Responding, Patterson pointed out that the commission had already requested parliament to refer "fundamental rights and freedoms" to the committee and that extra time be granted for the work to be completed.

"Once the joint select committee is fully reconstituted, that request conveyed by the chairman of the commission will be placed before it for a decision," the prime minister said.

Patterson said he had no objection to extra time being granted since "there is everything to be gained by having the fullest possible consideration of this important section of the Constitution." He cautioned, however, that consideration of rights and freedoms should not delay efforts to deal with other aspects of constitutional reform. Patterson chided Seaga for refusing to sign the report which he pointed out was "approved by the commission of which your own members were a party."

"....It is certainly not in the country's interest that the process of constitutional reform should be unduly prolonged. It is a process which requires a considerable amount of legislative time and effort. We cannot afford unnecessary delay," he said. "I expect that all members of the joint select committee will approach their work in that spirit so that we can be in a position to complete this long drawn out exercise without too much further loss of time or partisan dithering," said Patterson.

Chairman of the commission, James Kerr, and PNP representatives have accused the JLP of using the commission's report to "play politics." They said the section on rights and freedoms had been left out because time allowed them by the joint select committee of parliament had ran out. They said absenteeism and delinquency by commission members, including JLP representatives, contributed to their inability to complete the report. Kerr has repeatedly emphasised that a request had been made to the joint select committee to refer the issue back to the commission and grant it further time to complete its work.

But Seaga and the JLP, in explaining their "principled" position, said the commission should have initially

requested more time to complete the missing chapter before turning in the report which is expected to form the basis of sweeping changes to Jamaica's constitution. Seaga said the omission of the chapter on rights and freedoms was "a betrayal" of the commission's purpose.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

PM's Meant 'No Offense' by Al Gore Meeting Boycott

FL0610000293 Bridgetown CANA in English 2015 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Kingstown, St. Vincent, Oct 5, CANA—St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell said a collective decision was taken by Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) heads of government not to attend a meeting last week with United States Vice President Albert Gore.

"When the invitation came," Mitchell told his ruling New Democratic Party's annual convention Sunday, "the leaders concluded that we are not second class and we would send a prime minister to lead a delegation of ministers to meet with the Vice President." He added: "We felt it was important that the United States and the Caribbean governments know and understand that there are not two classes of prime ministers in the Caribbean, those who see presidents and those who see vice presidents."

The Vice President's decision to meet with the OECS leaders came after they registered dissatisfaction at not being invited to an August meeting President Bill Clinton held with the leaders of Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, The Bahamas, and Guyana, the so-called More Developed Countries (MDC's) of the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Further explaining why he and three other leaders were absent from the Gore meeting, Mitchell said it was scheduled for a time "when we had our own country meetings with the World Bank that was fixed up a long time ago. We mean no offence, but we have to be the guardians of our national dignity and our pride. If we don't look after it, nobody will look after it for us," Mitchell told his party's supporters.

Dominica's Prime Minister Dame Eugenia Charles and Antigua and Barbuda's Foreign Minister Lester Bird were the only two high-level OECS officials who met the U.S. V.P.

Pacific Basin Council President on NAFTA, Investments

PA0510124793 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2046 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Oct —Pyong H. Koo, president of the Economic Council for the Pacific Basin, said in Mexico City today that implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, will encourage more investments in Mexico.

At a news conference, Koo said Mexico's economy has been revitalized both domestically and internationally under President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and that "investors see this country as the best country in which to do business."

Koo, who is from Korea, arrived in Mexico to meet with government officials and businessmen from Canada and the United States, as part of an economic cooperation program between Asian and American countries.

During his first visit to Mexico as president of the council, Koo reiterated that implementation of the trilateral trade agreement "will make businessmen in the world more enthusiastic about investing in Mexico."

He clarified, however, that with or without that treaty there will always be a favorable climate of cooperation between Mexico and the Pacific Basin—comprised by approximately 20 countries, including India, China, Korea, and Japan—as promoted by President Salinas de Gortari during his visits to that region.

"Mexico portrays itself to the world as a strong and dynamic country in the economic field," and under that scheme, foreign investments in Mexico will increase more rapidly now, including investments from the Pacific Basin, he added.

Presently, Pacific Basin countries have investments in Mexico totaling approximately $3.5 billion, mainly in assembly plants at the Mexican-U.S. border, he said.

During his visit in Mexico City, Koo met with President Salinas de Gortari and businessmen, with whom he discussed aspects concerning economic cooperation and investment procedures.

Solana Meets With Ukrainian Foreign Ministers

PA0510201793 Mexico City XEQ Canal 9 Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Oct 93

[From the "Plenty of News" newscast; live relay by Mexico City XHTV Television Network]

[Text] Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana, who is participating in the 38th [as heard] UN General Assembly in New York, met with the Ukrainian and Russian foreign ministers.

Solana agreed with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozirev on the need to further encourage relations between Russia and Mexico.

Afterward, Solana met with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoly Zlonko who expressed his country's interest in increasing links with Mexico.

At the same time, Solana said that there is the potential for both nations' economies to complement each other.

The foreign ministers announced the opening of a Mexican representative office in Kiev as well as a Ukranian honorary consulate in Mexico.

Costa Rica

Mexican Trade Negotiations End With Proposal Exchange

PA0410124893 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2339 GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] San Jose, 2 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Trade delegations from Mexico and Costa Rica ended another round of negotiations in San Jose today by exchanging proposals on the expectations each side has for the creation of a free trade zone.

Jesus Flores, head of the Mexican delegation, seemed optimistic when he said: "We are very close to reaching a vanguard agreement in Latin America" as the end of the negotiation phase approaches, "which is full of very complex technical details."

The meeting, which was held between Thursday and Saturday in the Costa Rican capital, is the sixth bilateral round of talks held this year. A total of 104 officials from both countries participated, including advisers from the private sector.

Costa Rican Foreign Trade Minister Roberto Rojas agreed with the chief of the Mexican delegation that "the time for agreements and consensus are giving way" to the negotiation of documents, which will be the basis for signing the treaty.

Mexico and Costa Rica hope to reach an agreement for a free trade agreement before the year is over based on the Tuxtla Gutierrez Agreement signed by the presidents of Central America and Mexico in January 1991.

Enzo Cespedes, head of the Costa Rican delegation, said the delegations will have one month to conduct consultations in their respective countries before holding another meeting in the Mexican capital in early November.

The chief of the Mexican delegation insisted that the delegations "found common ground for negotiation, which favors the process and will contribute to substantial progress. It is important because the next meeting "will require very specific agendas," he said.

Guatemala

Group Targets 23 Renowned Citizens for Execution

PA0610032493 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0202 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The anticommunist "Roberto Lorenzana" Movement [Movimiento "Roberto Lorenzana"] today threatened to kill 23 Guatemalans, including 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu and Peace Commission Coordinator Hector Rosada. According to a communique sent to the media by this hitherto unknown clandestine group, "the traitors to the fatherland must be executed."

"The war has started against a group of communists, which is why we have ordered a summary trial for treason against the fatherland," the statement added. The anticommunist group announced Supreme Court Chief Justice Juan Jose Rodil Peralta must also be executed.

Other people described as military objectives were Rosalina Tuyuc, coordinator of the National Commission of Guatemalan Widows; EL GRAFICO journalist Carlos Rafael Soto; and SIGLO VEINTIUNO journalists Haroldo Sanchez and Marina Coronado.

Also threatened were Rosario Pu, Justina Tzoc, Tomeo Monterrosa, and Byron Morales of the Labor and Popular Action Union (UASP), as well as Mutual Support Group (GAM) President Nineth Montenegro de Garcia. The names of Carlos Say; Otto Peralta, former leader of the Association of University Students; journalists Marco Augusto Quiroa, Marco Vinicio Mejia, and Hugo Arce; and Fernando Lopez of the archdiocese's Human Rights Office were also mentioned.

The anticommunist group gave all of them, including Leonor Paz, Haroldo Xitamul, Marco Tulio Juarez, Guillermo Giron Valdes, and Maria Toj, 72 hours to leave the country. The group said that Chief Justice Juan Jose Rodil Peralta has been in Madrid, Spain, since 2 October, participating in a secret meeting with leaders of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG). "Rodil Peralta was a member of the 'Crater' Group with Comrades Cesar Montes, Turcios Limas, Yon Sosa, and other guerrilla leaders we have already killed," the press communique indicated.

According to the clandestine group, Rodil is meeting in Madrid with guerrilla Commanders Gaspar Ilom [Rodrigo Asturias Amado] and Rolando Moran, as well as with leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, with whom they are planning a "final attack on Guatemala City," for this year. Ms. Menchu, in turn, is accused of being a guerrilla.

Lorenzana, whose name was taken by the clandestine organization, is believed to be the founder of the 1966 "White Hand" death squad, which was reportedly led by the Army's intelligence service.

Nicaragua

Chamorro News Conference on Return From U.S.

PA0610031293 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1834 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Statement and news conference by Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, upon returning from the start of the 48th UN General Assembly session, with

foreign and domestic reporters and an unidentified moderator at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport in Managua—live relay]

[Text] [Chamorro] Thank you, dear Nicaraguan friends and journalists. I am returning to the country after having stayed six days in New York City and four days in Washington, where I also visited my grandchild, Marco Tolentino, who is in a very delicate condition in [words indistinct] with my family.

The ministers of my economic team also traveled with me. Dr. Emilio Pereira, Dr. Jose Evenor Taboada, and Dr. Erwin Kruger Maltez met me in Washington to report on the negotiations with the international organizations. I also met with Dr. Roberto Mayorga, our ambassador to the United States. I am back in Nicaragua, and I am pleased because I developed an awareness among our friends within the international community on Nicaragua's need to receive special treatment.

I pointed out that Nicaragua cannot be treated like other countries that are not undergoing a three-part transition as we are. We are building peace and democracy, and we are passing from a centralized democracy to a free market economy. With the solidarity of our good friends, such as my very good friend Butrus Butrus-Ghali, we are establishing a group of friends—a support group—who are following the development of our efforts to rebuild the Nicaraguan economy and who will keep the international community updated on our progress in strengthening democracy.

I have proposed to the member-states of the consultative group—Mexico, Germany, Canada, Spain, and Norway—to form a team that will support Nicaragua. This group will undoubtedly play a very active and important role in the relations our country has with the community of donor countries.

During a working session with (James Gustavo Sell), executive director of the UN Development Program, UNDP, he offered to assign top priority within his organization to this initiative of the Friends of Nicaragua Consultative Group. The UNDP will also provide us with all the necessary cooperation for holding the Second International Conference of New Democracies in Nicaragua in 1994, in which some 60 countries have so far confirmed their participation.

Meanwhile, I told the U.S. Government that the development of democracy in Nicaragua depends exclusively on the country's economic and social recovery. My dear friends, I had the opportunity to establish a friendship and hold personal conversations with President Bill Clinton and separate conversations with the main members of his government who are in charge of preparing U.S. policy toward Latin America.

I reiterated to President Clinton the urgency of drafting a common political agenda between the United States and Nicaragua to enable our governments to work together during the next three years we have left to govern.

We talked about how difficult it is in our country to make progress and consolidate a democratic state of law with an economy that has been destroyed by many years of war, as well as with the economic, democratic, and social setbacks we endured for 10 years during the government of Daniel Ortega.

In various talks with President Bill Clinton and working sessions with Assistant Secretary of State Clifton Wharton and members of the U.S. State Department, I felt the United States has realized there are two important aspects in our common democratic objectives: 1) that it must support our institutions without personalizing relations, and 2) that economic aid must be generous and continuous to permit us to be an attractive partner in the enterprise of democracy and the promotion of human rights.

I showed them that the economic support they are providing to us and will continue to give us through 1994 should be not only generous and continuous, but that it must also be more flexible on the part of the World Bank, the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank], and the IMF, which are organizations in which the United States has undeniable influence.

In Washington, I sought to obtain support for the challenging efforts and negotiations being conducted by the ministers of the economic team who accompanied me.

In this regard, I can tell you that negotiations to achieve the definitive release of aid are quite advanced. I wish to reaffirm that I received enormous support from the new Clinton administration appointees in terms of our negotiations with the IMF and World Bank.

I also can announce that we have already reached a preagreement. Nevertheless, considering the government's economic program has been widely criticized, I, as a democratic president, want this preagreement to be reviewed by our country's most prominent economists. I want them to issue opinions and say whether it can be improved.

My friends, Nicaragua's economy has deteriorated for the past 14 years, beginning with the war to topple Somoza, then the communist experiments of Daniel Ortega, followed by the civil war we suffered in the last decade up until the present. My government has had to stabilize the economy and face a drop in production.

Our fatherland's reconstruction is a task that should involve all Nicaraguans. It will require great sacrifices and a great deal of work. It will require, above all, that we reach agreements and stop fighting and criticizing one another. The fatherland's interests must always be above personal or partisan interests.

This is why I ordered my ministers to discuss the proposals with good-willed Nicaraguans who want to

help our fatherland at this crucial time in our history. They all briefed me about the efforts made by governments... [pauses] that are already being made before international organizations to ensure they will be more flexible toward our country. For example, Spain assured me it will also work through the EEC, which has contributed a significant amount of funds for the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises. These programs deserve total support from my government, the media, and all Nicaraguans. Small- and medium-sized producers are my government's priority.

I also made efforts in my capacity as a mother, woman, and president, because Nicaragua's children, and particularly those children who have suffered most from the consequences of war and natural disasters, have brought us bad [word indistinct] year after year. My good friend James Grant, executive director of UNICEF, honored Nicaragua by asking it to preside over the third evaluation meeting of the World Children's Summit.

In terms of this year, we agreed to welcome a team of UNICEF advisers to help us draft adequate legislation to benefit all Nicaraguan children. Mr. (Samuel Isanale), the president of the 48th UN General Assembly, assured me that by November the so-called international assistance for rehabilition and reconstruction in cases of natural disasters will begin flowing into Nicaragua. He said this aid was approved in past years.

Finally, I wish to tell you that the Nicaraguan community of New York, with the [word indistinct] of a touching meeting, conveyed to all of you and to all Nicaraguans their great love and solidarity. They proudly represent Nicaraguans as they work over there. As they said, their hearts are in our fatherland, which we all must love and serve. Thank you very much. We are at your service for any questions.

[Moderator] Roberto Larios, BARRICADA newspaper.

[Larios] I want to ask Central Bank President Jose Taboada or Finance Minister Emilio Pereira a question. I understand multilateral organizations—in other words, the IMF and the World Bank—believe that the economic program's stabilization phase has concluded. I would like to know more about the nature of the program's second phase. Will you continue to follow the IMF instructions of cutting public expenditures, eliminating subsidies, and increasing taxes, or are you preparing another type of alternative for this second phase of the economic program?

[Pereira] The stabilization phase in a small and unbalanced economy like ours is an ongoing task rather than a phase that comes to an end. It depends on the resources available each year. When referring to this, the rest of the world always waits to see what kind of efforts will be exerted by the Nicaraguans, with a view to supporting these efforts. It is important to bear this in mind, because normally it is expected that stabilization will be achieved based on the efforts exerted by the Nicaraguans. The Nicaraguan people can guarantee that foreign aid will continue in the sense that they exert such efforts, right? Moreover, the second phase, meaning the structural adjustment phase, is a plan to encourage growth. The idea is to eliminate distortions in the economic system in order that resources are better appropriated and production capabilities are improved. This is precisely the area on which we will concentrate during the seminar.

I would like to use this opportunity to issue an appeal to nongovernment economists who have been trying to participate in the formulation of important decisions for the country's well-being. I urge them to participate in the seminar that will be held on Thursday and Friday and will be attended by very important (?international) figures in order that their views are taken into consideration. We will work and try to achieve a consensus on a general strategy for Nicaragua's development.

[Moderator] Maria Elsa Gomez.

[Gomez] Thank you. Dona Violeta, we know about the efforts you have exerted to maintain a state of law, but we are also worried by the statements that were recently made by Nicaraguan Attorney General Guillermo Vargas Sandino. He said the Amnesty Law expired on 15 September and Pedrito El Hondureno's [Victor Manuel Gallego Hernandez] demobilization occurred on 29 or 30 September—in other words, after the law had expired—and, therefore, he could not benefit from the law. In short, Pedrito El Hondureno turned in his weapons after the Amnesty Law was no longer in effect, and, nevertheless, he was reportedly able to depart for Mexico without any problem. What can you tell us about this?

[Chamorro] Look, I think this question should be answered by the Attorney General, because I think this is his responsibility. That is why I delegate authority to other people.

[Moderator] Journalist Rosemary Thornton [words indistinct].

[Thornton] Dr. Taboada, Nicaragua was reportedly seeking the remittance of 90 percent of its debt, approximately $10 billion. I would like to know what progress has been achieved in this area. Also, aid is reportedly being withheld contingent on three things—the resolution of the Santa Rosa arms cache case, the issue of human rights, and the Army Organization Law.

[Taboada] Thank you. These are two totally different topics—the debt remittance, on one hand, and the topic of bilateral relations with the United States and bilateral aid on the other hand. In terms of the first topic, the IMF and World Bank assembly discussed the need for Nicaragua to obtain, in principle, a remittance for approximately 95 percent of its debt in order that the foreign debt may become manageable within the limitations of this economy. It is particularly important to bear in

mind that we do not generate enough resources to pay the debt, and foreign aid is tending to decrease.

The approval of this request depends on the type of creditors we have. In the case of creditors within the Paris Club, we will have to submit a formal request from the Nicaraguan Government to the Paris Club, and, in turn, this request will have to be reviewed when this organization meets. In the case of creditors who are not part of the Paris Club, the bilateral contacts established by the Foreign Cooperation Ministry might allow us to achieve progress in this area. Nevertheless, the government has emphasized the importance of achieving the remittance of a substantial part of our foreign debt in order that we may truly funnel our scant available resources into those areas that allow us to achieve growth.

Referring to bilateral cooperation, I would rather yield the floor to Foreign Cooperation Minister Erwin Kruger, who has been discussing the issue with AID and the U.S. State Department.

[Kruger] I think it is extremely important to emphasize the enormous efforts exerted throughout the past year, particularly by Dona Violeta, and all the personal contacts she has established with President Clinton and other members of the Clinton administration; the efforts exerted by the Foreign Ministry; the efforts I have exerted; and efforts exerted by the Presidency minister and other ministers to improve and establish fluid, cooperative relations with the United States of America.

In light of this, I can now report that the ministry which Dona Violeta has asked me to preside over conducted many negotiations in September in an effort to get the frozen aid released soon. We have managed to clear many doubts and U.S. officials are now able to understand the problems we are facing. They now will be able to lessen the conditions established for this type of aid. These negotiations have been critical, and they have been much publicized. We are hoping that everything will be fully cleared quite soon—probably in October. Thank you.

[Moderator] Maria Elvira Salazar of the Telemundo Newscast.

[Salazar] Good morning, Dona Violeta. You say flexibility has been shown on behalf of the U.S. Government—a government, which unfortunately for Nicaraguans, has not proven to be very flexible in past months with the demands it has made. You said your meeting with the assistant secretary was very pleasant but, nevertheless, the United States continues to press to get the list of things it wants and the changes it wants in this country.

I have information from my office in Washington that you specifically promised to remove an official—we are discussing this same topic again—and that this time it was not Army Commander Humberto Ortega but intelligence chief Lenin Cerna. Did you specifically promise that Cerna would be removed from his post and given a civilian post if the North Americans agreed to free the $98 million, and, in turn, if all other organizations followed suit? How much of this is true?

[Chamorro] In this sense, the latter is not true. I want to tell you that problems in this country must be straightened out among us Nicaraguans. As I have said previously, I had good rapport at the meetings held when I was recently in New York, and I thank God for this. I met with President Clinton several times. I also met with Mr. Watson and Mr. Alexander and we talked a great deal about the problems in Nicaragua. They, of course, are very concerned and do want to help Nicaragua. They will give us their help as they help any other country. Nevertheless, I want to tell you something, and I tell this to all of you—my dear journalist friends and everyone else who is listening—I do things according to the dictates of my conscience. I will not sell my fatherland—I want you to know this—for a single penny, as they say in English. This is what I can tell you.

[Salazar] Then it is not true that Cerna will be removed?

[Chamorro] What did you say?

[Salazar] Then, it is not true that [two-second break in reception] in a meeting?

[Chamorro] No, my dear. [words indistinct] Things have to be done at the proper time, and changes will take place in due time. What I want to tell you is that the U.S. Government makes changes in the same manner that the Nicaraguan Government makes them. We make the changes that we want. None of this is true. I will not make any change under pressure, and I will not tolerate pressure from anyone.

[Salazar] My second question, Dona Violeta: Do you still maintain what you said in your 2 September speech, where you said that General Humberto Ortega will leave his post sometime in 1994? Is this still on?

[Chamorro] Yes.

[Moderator] Journalist (Rudy Guevara) of Baptist Radio.

[Guevara] Good afternoon, Mrs. President. May God bless you.

[Chamorro] The same to you, Rudy.

[Guevara] The following question is about your work at the 48th UN General Assembly. What attitude did international organizations have in terms of their support for the people of Nicaragua? I would like you to comment specifically on this matter. A few minutes ago you mentioned your work in Washington and the meeting with President Bill Clinton. I would like you to pursue these topics more thoroughly. Thank you.

[Chamorro] First, I met with President Bill Clinton in New York, not in Washington. Second, I want to tell you

that everyone—North Americans, South Americans, Central Americans, Europeans, the EEC—is concerned, and they all want Nicaraguan to advance, to have unity and peace. They want us to understand one another, to stop fighting, and to stop recounting past misgivings in an effort to resolve our problems among ourselves. These are a few of our greatest problems. They want us to forget our selfish attitudes, and this is why I am telling you this right now. We, the Nicaraguans, who are now in a democracy, can resolve our problems among ourselves, and we do not need other people to come and help us resolve our problems. It is one thing, for example, to receive aid, cooperation, that they come to find out what has been done or what you have done or something like that but quite another is another thing. [sentence as heard] I imagine I have just confused all of you. [laughter]

[Moderator] Eduardo Henriquez of LA TRIBUNA.

[Henriquez] Good afternoon, Mrs. Violeta. I have two questions. The first is that apparently—no, not apparently—there is indeed a contradiction at this time in terms of negotiations and problems involving rearmed groups.

On one hand, General Ortega yesterday announced an offensive against the 3-80 Northern Front, and, on the other, the OAS' International Commission of Support and Verification [CIAV] today said it views this action with great concern because it could hamper the negotiations they are carrying out in keeping with the truce reached in Caulatu.

El Chacal [Jose Angel Talavera] supposedly has until 25 October to surrender his weapons. In view of this contradiction, I would like to know what the government plans on actually doing? Will it attack El Chacal, or will it continue the negotiations?

[Chamorro] I hope that El Chacal as well as... [pauses] who was the other one you named?

[Unidentified speaker] The OAS' CIAV.

[Chamorro] I trust El Hondureno or whoever else is willing to think of themselves as Nicaraguans. I believe that we should work out our differences; that we do not want to kill each other; that we want to be Nicaraguans without having to ask for money, because we do not want to sell ourselves out; and that we want to help each other. Let us help each other. I want them to hear myself through all the media here that what Violeta wants for her fatherland is to protect their dignity also.

[Henriquez] Yes, but your government, on the one hand, via Gen. Ortega, announced an attack and offensive, and, on the other, it is negotiating. I would like you to clarify this situation. How will you...

[Chamorro, interrupting] I repeat: I hope that there will be no need to reach that point. I hope there will be no dead, because I do not want any more dead here. I want.... [pauses] well, each one has his work, but I hope there will be no need to do that. I hope everyone will lay down his arms and live in peace and tranquillity. Do you see what is happening in the Soviet Union [as heard]? There are so many millions involved, and they are killing each other. I do not want this for my fatherland. Do you? Answer me: yes or no? No, right? OK, then.

[Moderator] Maria Elsa Suarez of Channel 6?

[Suarez] This question is for bank Governor Dr. Taboada. I would like him to briefly comment on the keynote speech by the IMF director regarding the international crisis in countries where these measures have been applied.

The other question is for Dr. Pereira. I would like him to give details on the pre-agreements that were reached and that will be discussed with the economists. Also, I want Dr. Kruger to tell me whether the meeting with the eight foreign cooperation ministers who met in Washington yielded any results.

[Taboada] In terms of the formal presentations made by IMF Director-General Camdessus, they actually recognized the social costs of all these measures. Nevertheless, they continue to insist on the importance that the economies of various parts of the world will continue to overcome their internal problems through austerity measures and by way of correcting great macroeconomic imbalances.

In his speech, Mr. Camdessus talked about the globalization of current economic relations in today's world. He insisted on the importance of free trade and the need to correct internal imbalances within each economy. He insisted that the economic development of all of humanity could actually be further improved through joint efforts based on internal discipline.

As for the preagreements, I will ask Dr. Pereira to answer your question.

[Moderator] We will now hear Finance Minister Dr. Emilio Pereira on the preagreements the Nicaraguan Government reportedly reached and that will be discussed this week with local economists.

[Pereira] Maria Elsa, thank you for your question, because it allows me to underscore that we are negotiating two loans with multilateral organizations. One is with the IMF, and it was assigned an acronym to facilitate work—the ISAF [expansion unknown]—and the other is with the World Bank, and they call it the FRC-2 [expansion unknown]. These two loans and related funds add up to approximately $200-230 million. The period covered by the loans is between now and before the end of the first half of 1994.

We need to give priority to these two projects to try to bring in these funds that the Nicaraguan economy needs so badly. As for the IMF, we are talking about the ISAF, and the stabilization plan is what is normally negotiated there. The stabilization plan seeks to establish clear signals in the market or very clear targets for inflation,

international reserves, and the fiscal deficit to prompt the private sector to work in a stable manner in which the signals in the market are very clear and not distorted by an atmosphere of instability, as is the case with hyperinflationary economies. In order to do this, I repeat, Nicaraguans must make an internal effort.

As for the adjustment plan, which has to do with the World Bank and the ERC-2, this obviously involves the combination of policies to encourage growth in a more explicit manner. The preagreements are in keeping with something we have pointed out. We have clearly said this economy will be led by the private sectors.

At this point I would like to pause to direct an observation to the Nicaraguan private sector: The task of reviving the economy is not solely the job of the government. Workers must do their part by increasing productivity, and the private sector must (?patriotically) decide to produce in this economy, as was the case in El Salvador and in other countries such as Guatemala, where [words indistinct] conflict, the private sectors focus mainly on business matters and contributing to create an atmosphere of stability and to move the country forward.

Therefore, in a way the bases have been established to ensure that private sector members will say: I am indeed Nicaraguan; I am interested in this country and will help it move forward. We want to focus on private sector exports, and to do this, we obviously need large credits for the exporting sector, a review of interest rates, and even a review, in one way or another, of the exchange rate.

Third, as part of those preagreements, the Republic's budget must in one way or another reflect austerity in keeping with the decreasing debt throughout the world. Therefore, within this framework of preagreements, which is quite general but which has advanced greatly, we increasingly need economists, and we hope the private sector will send their economists to ensure that we all commit ourselves to pushing Nicaragua forward.

[Moderator] Foreign Cooperation Erwin Kruger will speak now.

[Kruger] [words indistinct] will hold meetings with cooperation ministers from various countries, beginning with the United States, with Mr. (Brian Altwood) and the new director general of AID, who confirmed the United States will continue supporting Nicaragua, guiding its program to enable it to become more in line with our needs, and establishing a more profound dialogue in order to make more effective use of the assistance.

The German minister also confirmed that Germany is going to cofinance this loan from the World Bank. The people from Taiwan confirmed that $30 million is ready to cofinance loans for electricity needs. We signed a cofinancing agreement for the (Rumicar) project with the [words indistinct] and the Nordic Investment Fund, which has approximately $40 million for the repair of all rural roads.

In general, we met with the primary cooperating parties to see how the cooperation programs stand, and now, all these cooperation programs are ready, and there is a willingness to support Nicaragua. Nevertheless, just like the other ministers and Dona Violeta have said, the most important things to be done are efforts that need to be made by the Nicaraguans. We must reach an agreement, and we must establish a dialogue to see how we can rebuild our country. It is the duty of all Nicaraguans to undertake the task of rebuilding our country. The international community supports us in this task, but it wants to see the efforts we make. It wants to see us reach an agreement, and it wants to see us make our share of sacrifice. Thank you.

[Moderator] We have time for two more questions. Marelisa Talavera from BARRICADA.

[Talavera] Hello, Dona Violeta.

[Chamorro] How are you?

[Talavera] I wanted to ask you to expand more on the Russian situation. You made a statement, but concerning the attitude of President Yeltsin.... [pauses] and on the other hand, it was said that a solution to the problem of the property of U.S. citizens in Nicaragua was also discussed in Washington. That was the key point of the Helms Amendment that was not approved in Congress. However, the new amendment that was approved in the U.S. Congress voices concern over the resolution to the issues of U.S. citizens' property. This topic was apparently discussed during a meeting with officials from the State Department. I want to know if any of the officials who attended these conversations could comment about this.

[Chamorro] I want to tell you that nobody mentioned Mr. Jesse Helms during my meetings with the U.S. under secretary, President Clinton, Mr. Alexander, or Mr. Watson. I think Mr. Helms has been left behind. I feel that all of Nicaragua's friends and President Clinton are concerned about the situation and want to see that we Nicaraguans work in unity. In this way, we can all work in unity, and soon we will meet in Washington to discuss things in more detail. It is not the same as speaking briefly at receptions. We attended luncheons, not with him, but with his representatives. These were true luncheons, but while they had lunch, I was speaking on behalf of all of you.

I also want to say that I am not disappointed, but rather encouraged. I am encouraged and I feel we must all work hard so that we can all do everything we want to do in unity and in cooperation. I have always told you that—and I repeat this—I do not accept any pressure from anyone. They also accept this. Everyone knows that. I think that you also know this. I do not know if any of you doubt what I am willing to do for you.

I will not sell my fatherland for a single penny [previous word in English], or a cordoba, or a centavo—that is, if we still have our centavos. Forget it, I will not sell my fatherland. I will work for my fatherland, and to that end, I am very pleased, because I felt tremendous affection, tremendous concern, and tremendous cooperation. You will see how people will be visiting here to learn more of our situation.

With regard to your question about the USSR—that is, Russia—well, I think you are more aware of it than I am. I am truly concerned, and I would not like for that to happen to us. Forget it; I am not going to do that.

[Moderator] The last question will be from Jorge Castillo, of the Extravision newscast.

[Castillo] President Chamorro: I would like to know your opinion about the meetings being held by the leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and the UNO [National Opposition Union] Political Council. Yesterday, they met for more than four hours, and later they announced they will continue meeting. They set a date for Thursday. What do you think of the FSLN meeting with UNO, as well as the fact that the government has been apparently left out of the talks?

[Chamorro] Well, look, I love it. It thrills me that the FSLN is meeting and talking with UNO. It is great that all Nicaraguans get to know one another. Before, my government was being criticized because we were a co-government. Well, now, we are all talking together. Let us forget about the co-government. We are all Nicaraguans. We have to settle our problems among ourselves. That word—co—is horrible. We must eliminate it.

[Talavera] [words indistinct]

[Chamorro] Look, honey, wait a minute. I am speaking to him. Pardon me, but I want all of us to understand each other in order that we can resolve our problems. I want people to say: Nicaragua resolved all of its problems among the Nicaraguans.

[Moderator] Thank you. The news conference is over.

[Talavera] [words indistinct] that the government had to be afraid, because apparently there was a very close rapprochement. These two groups are political enemies.

[Chamorro] Look, honey, I did not hear you well.

[Talavera] Are you afraid that these groups—your political enemies—are united in a dialogue, and apparently they understand one another a lot more than you think.

[Chamorro] Look, honey, you know that I do not...

[Talavera, interrupting] I am not your honey.

[Chamorro] Look, you are all my good friends, and my wonderful children, as I call you. I am not afraid, and I feel extremely pleased that everyone understands one another and that we continue understanding each other. I think that any Nicaragua who does not understand another... [pauses] I assure you that one was a Sandinist, the other was not, and we all want to be Nicaraguans and return to a democratic life. If that were not the case.... [pauses] I believe there are more than 50 journalists in this room. When could we do something like this? Thank you, my children.

[Moderator] Thank you. You have just heard President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, who has just returned from the United States.

3-80 Front Threatens To Attack 3 Northern Cities

PA0610023993 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0151 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Excerpt] Managua, 5 Oct (NOTIMEX)—According to a local evening newspaper, the "3-80 Northern Front" recontra group headed by Jose Angel Talavera, alias "El Chacal," today threatened to attack three cities in northern Nicaragua.

The warning from the forces led by Talavera was issued in response to the creation of a special unit of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) to fight approximately 500 rearmed—all of them recontras—rebels who are still operating in northern Nicaragua.

According to LA PRENSA, "El Chacal" said that he will attack Esteli, Ocotal, and Matagalpa to "confront the (special) Army troops. [no closing quotation marks as received] The newspaper did not say when the alleged attack by the recontras—former members of the Nicaraguan resistance group who fought the Sandinist government with U.S. support in the 1980's—will take place.

Military sources told NOTIMEX that Talavera "might say anything just to obtain benefits from the government." [passage omitted]

UNO Coordinator on Talks With FSLN; 7 Oct Meeting

PA0510205793 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 93

[From the "This Morning" program]

[Text] National Opposition Union [UNO] Coordinator Dr. Duilio Baltodano Mayorga has said that UNO national council members and Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] delegates who held a meeting on 4 October have agreed to meet again on 7 October to discuss Nicaraguan political and social problems.

Baltodano, leader of the National Conservative Alliance [Alianza Nacional Conservadora] Party, said that members of the 10 parties that comprise the UNO received an FSLN delegation yesterday. Based on documents that had previously been presented, both sides began discussing aspects to do with the national crisis in an atmosphere of cordiality.

[Begin Baltodano recording] We received the visit of an FSLN national directorate delegation. This delegation was received by the UNO national political council, which is comprised of the 10 leaders of its political parties. Based on documents that had previously been exchanged between the FSLN and the UNO, we began to discuss in a general way various Nicaraguan problems.

We spoke and exchanged views on economic aspects and the government's influence in these economic issues; we spoke about the country's Constitution, one of the points discussed the most by Nicaraguan public opinion and parliament. We also discussed the possibility and various ways to make partial reforms to the Constitution and the possibility of holding a constituent assembly, without directly defining the ways that could be used to make the changes.

We discussed topics relating to property issues, the need to clearly define this topic so that it may serve as a support to an authentic economic take-off in Nicaragua. We spoke on matters dealing with militarism; we discussed the size of the Armed Forces, their behavior, and aspects relating to the work of the National Police. We also discussed the problem of violence and how contributions to solve these problems could be given jointly by the FSLN and the UNO.

We also discussed in depth the intricacies of certain types of problems that could arise, such as the National Assembly, without reaching any definite conclusion on any of them, because this would require a more in-depth discussion.

In other words, both delegations spoke frankly, sincerely, establishing points that could be of agreement, which requires a follow-up, to draft a formal document. This is why it was decided that a new working meeting will take place between the FSLN national directorate and the UNO political council. This next meeting will take place on 7 October also at 1600 at the FSLN secretariat.

It is worth mentioning here, in front of our reporter friends and the Nicaraguan people, the well-guided and positive conduct and the political resolve that has been observed to find solutions to the country's problems. At this stage we cannot cross our arms in the face of the serious economic situation; instead, we need to make an effort, think first and foremost in the fatherland, in Nicaragua, and cast aside party and individual interests to find a definite solution to the country's problems. [end recording]

Ortega Comments UNO Meeting

PA0610001693 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 93

[From the "This Morning" newscast]

[Text] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, former president of the Republic and secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, termed hopeful the meeting held Monday afternoon with members of the National Political Council of the National Opposition Union [UNO], which comprises the board members of 10 political parties. He said the topics broached were designed to reach an agreement to resolve the Nicaraguan crisis.

In discussing his talks with UNO representatives, Ortega said: We are convinced we have started to talk, perhaps for the first time, as Nicaraguans, leaving our political banners at the door. We sat down to talk with the Nicaraguan blue and white flag before us.

[Begin Ortega recording] The UNO leadership and members of the FSLN Directorate have held a meeting of hope. We are convinced that we have started to talk, perhaps for the first time, as Nicaraguans. We have left the banners of our political parties at the door, and we sat down to talk with the blue and white flag of peace.

We know that the times are dramatic and that the crisis is profound in terms of social, economic, and political order. The country demands everyone's participation to resolve its problems. This applies to problems of a socioeconomic as well as political nature. One thing cannot be divorced from the other. I repeat, therefore, that they must be one and the same.

We spoke of the urgency to find a solution to the crisis to enable Nicaragua to achieve some stability. The economic problem, the political problem, and the problem of the National Assembly must be resolved. We stressed clearly our position that the problems must be resolved while violence is averted. We stressed this point at this meeting. We also raised the need to strengthen the laws to help reorganize the Army and police and guarantee the subordination of military power to civilian power. We have yet to agree on the points mentioned by the UNO coordinator, and we must try to reach a consensus. In any event, the differences lie in how to attain our objectives. We admitted frankly that in this meeting we still have not found how to overcome the problems and achieve our objectives. It is necessary to resolve the socioeconomic and political problems affecting our country. [end recording]

Argentina

Menem Discusses Constitutional Amendment, Reelection

PY0510221293 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0310 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 4 Oct (NA)—President Carlos Menem stated tonight that if there is no time to brush up all the technical details demanded for a constitutional reform, he will leave power in July 1995 when he completes six years in office.

"Bad luck, I am going, and for other things," Menem said, with this answer ruling out the possibility of extending his term in office for a few months to allow the implementation of the constitutional reform, which includes a reelection clause to allow him to remain in power for a second four-year period. [passage omitted]

Menem categorically defended the constitutional reform proposal, which includes a presidential reelection clause, although he categorically denied that he is directly seeking to remain in power for another term in the government.

"It is a contradictory Constitution because there is an article that establishes freedom of religion and another that bans 15 percent of the population, demanding that the president of the Republic be of the Roman and Apostolic Catholic religion," Menem said.

He added: "Another negative point is the indirect election of the president. I am not talking about my reelection but that there must be a reelection clause. If the Constitution is amended, I am not going to be reelected directly. I must first win the internal elections and then the general elections." [passage omitted]

Menem Denies Possible Impediment in Duhalde Candidacy

PY0510112593 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0136 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Oct (NA)—Tonight President Carlos Menem said there would be no legal impediment to Governor Eduardo Duhalde's candidacy for president in 1995, should the constitutional amendment project fail.

Menem said that if the government project for a constitutional amendment fails, "I am going to work in the battlefield," when his term in office ends in two years.

The Argentine president declined to comment on the possibility that his former Minister Erman Gonzalez could be designated Chamber of Deputies president in December after winning the elections for deputies in the federal capital. "That matter concerns the Chamber of Deputies," said Menem during the Haddad and Longobardi program aired by Channel 2.

Eduardo Duhalde Resumes JP Leadership

PY0510121193 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2215 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Oct (NA)—Today Buenos Aires Governor Eduardo Duhalde conveyed to President Carlos Menem his decision to suspend the leave he had requested and automatically reassume the Justicialist Party [PJ] leadership.

Duhalde participated in a meeting with Eduardo Bauza, Eduardo Menem, Carlos Ruckauf, Carlos Corach, and Liliana Gurdulich de Correa today. When President Menem arrived later at the meeting, Duhalde reported that he had suspended his leave and reassumed his post as the PJ president.

Moreover, Duhalde also called for a party congress next Tuesday to discuss the constitutional amendment issue which will be treated in Congress a day later.

Article Views Voters' Support for Center-Left Parties

PY0510202893 Buenos Aires PAGINA/12 in Spanish 4 Oct 93 p 7

[Article by Ernesto Seman]

[Text] In addition to the unquestionable success in the federal capital of the Large Front [FG] party and its first candidate to the Chamber of Deputies, Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez, the voters' progressive sector yesterday had one of its best vote tallies since 1983. The FG received 13.6 percent of federal capital votes and its second candidate, Graciela Fernandez Meijide, also obtained a seat in the chamber. The Socialist Unity [US] Movement apparently did not lose votes to the FG, and the last vote tally indicates that Hector Polino won his seat in Congress. As predicted, the US elected 100 percent more councilmen than deputies. Therefore, the FG and the US together obtained more than 23 percent of the votes for councilmen, and now have at least seven more mayors—four from the FG and three from the US, in addition to Anibal Ibarra of the FG and Ernesto Jaimovich of the US, who were reelected. In Buenos Aires Province, the FG obtained the necessary votes to give Pino Solanas a seat, but as a result of its internal splits the Buenos Aires socialists had exactly half the amount of votes they obtained in 1991. Enrique Llopies, who headed the Honesty and Work alliance led by the Popular Socialist Party [PSP] in Santa Fe Province received 4.3 percent of the votes, and Ricardo Molinas was reelected to the chamber. Molinas was elected by the PSP in 1991.

It is too early to tell whether the FG will definitively be the third party after the UCR [Radical Civic Union] and the PJ [Justicialist Party] in the federal capital, but everything indicates that as a result of the impressive 13.6 percent obtained by Chacho Alvarez in the federal capital the party will have a different position ensured. In 1991, the amount of votes the left and the center-left obtained in the federal capital was the largest since 1983.

At that time, more than seven different groups obtained a total of 276,377 votes, which represented 14.4 percent of the voters. Yesterday the FG obtained a similar result. How can we explain the growth of this alliance among dissidents of Peronism, intransigent citizens, and communists, which showed an oppositionist profile but made an effort to leave behind the classic speeches of the left? The growth of the center-left proposals was parallel to the retraction of the leftist groups that practically disappeared from the electoral map. However, this does not seem to be the reason why the FG took off as a movement.

The previous polls showed that most FG voters had voted for the UCR in 1991, and yesterday's elections returns confirmed that. The FG had its best performance where the UCR is strong and remained below the level of the traditional Peronist bastions.

Without an attractive candidate occupying first place in the UCR list—and despite Fernando de la Rua's efforts to strengthen Martha Mercaders' campaign in the last few days before the elections—Chacho Alvarez' charismatic figure became popular among a group of voters who previously supported the UCR.

In Buenos Aires Province, the FG had the usual electoral performance—4.1 percent—but it was enough to ensure Pino Solanas' seat in Congress. The FG campaign was short and the provincial leaders were resigned to obtaining no more support than necessary to elect one deputy.

The US once again confirmed its municipal profile. It obtained 5.6 percent of the votes for the lower chamber—it had obtained 6.2 percent in 1991—and 10.5 percent for the City Council. This way, Norberto La Porta, the first candidate in the list of councilmen, maintains his top position within the socialist alliance. In Buenos Aires Province, the PSP and Christian Democratic Party alliance obtained 31,524 votes, and the Democratic Socialist Party and Authentic Socialist Party, 50,556. As a result, neither of the two parties could elect a candidate.

The Leftist and Workers Front [FIT] that tried to reelect Trotskyist Luis Zamora was the only party to have more than 50,000 votes, which represented 1.5 percent of the overall total, but was not enough to ensure Zamora's staying in Congress. The FIT, however, protested that the post office did not deliver their voting slips in all Buenos Aires Province districts. This fact was confirmed by balloting tables presidents, and the appropriate complaints will be made beginning today to the Interior Ministry.

Names of New Congressional Deputies Listed

PY0510223593 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Oct 93 p 11

[Text] (NA)—The names of the new deputies to emerge from Sunday's [3 October] elections appeared from the vote counting as below:

Federal Capital

JUSTICIALISTS: Antonio Erman Gonzalez, Miguel Toma (x), Patricia Bullrich, Roberto Digon and Ana Kessler. RADICALS: Martha Mercader, Rafael Pascual, Jesus Rodriguez, Rodolfo Terragno and Enrique Mathov. FRENTE GRANDE [Big Front]: Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez (x) and Graciela Fernandez Meijide. SOCIALIST: Hector Polino (x).

Buenos Aires

JUSTICIALIST: Alberto Peirri (x), Oscar Alende (x), Mabel Muller, Naldo Brunelli, Carlos Dellepiane, Mirta Rubini, Adalberto Bresser, Julio Migliozzi, Isabel Visconti, Angel Abasto, Mario Camara, Mabel Campezatto, Carlos Castro, Osvaldo Borda (x), Silvia Martinez, Jorge Perez, Delfor Gimenez, Maria Laura Leguizamon, Claudio Sebastiani, Carlos Raul Alvarez. RADICALS: Federico Storani (x), Jose Horacio Juanarena, Jose Dumon, Elisa Carca, Jorge Teoddosiu, Manuel Martinez, Juan Carlos Cabiron, Silvia Bonomi, Silvia Vazquez, Roberto D'Elia. MODIN [Movement for Independence and Dignity]: Aldo Rico, Luis Polo, Liliana Ayetz, Emilio Morello. FRENTE GRANDE: Fernando Solanas.

Catamarca

JUSTICIALIST: Jorge Diaz Martinez. RADICAL/CIVIL FRONT: Oscar Castillo, Horacio Pernasetti.

Cordoba

JUSTICIALISTS: Juan Schiaretti, Leonor Alarcia (x), Miguel Balestrini, Humberto Roggero. RADICALS: Jorge Neder, Mario Negri, Margarita Sobrino, Tretel Meyer. UCeDe [Democratic Centrist Union]: German Kammerath.

Corrientes

JUSTICIALIST: Fernando la Hoz. AUTONOMIST-LIBERAL PACT: Nicholas Garay (x). The third place is still disputed between Luis Callaba (PAL [expansion unknown]) and Miguel Biaggioni (Radical)

Chaco

JUSTICIALIST: Carlos Tenev, Susana Ayala. RADICAL: Francisco Fragoso. OTHERS: David Ruiz Palacios (Autonomist Chaco)

Chubut

JUSTICIALIST: Jose Corchuelo Blasco (x). RADICAL: Atilio Viglione

Entre Rios

JUSTICIALIST: Rolando Kaheler, Emilio Martinez Garbino. RADICAL: Sergio Montiel, Pedro Galante.

Formosa

JUSTICIALIST: Ramon Gimenez. RADICAL: Jose Maria Parajon

Jujuy

JUSTICIALIST: Horacio Macedo. RADICAL: Alejandro Nieva. OTHERS: Pedro Figueroa (Jujuy Popular Movement)

La Pampa

JUSTICIALIST: Jorge Matzkin (x), Rodolfo Gazia. RADICAL: Antonio Berhongaray (x)

La Rioja

JUSTICIALIST: Carlos Omar Menem. RADICAL: Gaston Mercado Luna.

Mendoza

JUSTICIALIST: Arturo Lafalla, Cristina Zuccadi de Flamarique, Carlos Abihaggle. RADICAL: Victor Fayad. OTHERS: Carlos Balter (Democrat)

Misiones

JUSTICIALIST: Carlos Golpe, Adriana Togni de Vely. RADICAL: Ramon Closs

Neuquen

JUSTICIALIST: Oscar Parrilli (x). RADICAL: Victor Pelaez. OTHER: Osvaldo Pelyn (Neuquen Popular Movement)

Rio Negro

JUSTICIALIST: Miguel Pichetto. RADICAL: Oscar Machado (x)

Salta

JUSTICIALIST: Marcelo Lopez Arias (x). OTHERS: Rodolfo Juncosa (Renewal)

San Juan

JUSTICIALIST/ESPERANZA: Jorge Escobar, Rogelio Cerdera. JUSTICIALIST/FREJUPO: Jose Lopez

San Luis

JUSTICIALIST: Ruben Rojo. RADICAL: Miguel Bonino

Santa Cruz

JUSTICIALIST: Rita Brisaldi, Rafael Flores (x). RADICAL: Ricardo Patterson.

Santa Fe

JUSTICIALIST: Oscar Lamberto (x), Carlos Funes, Cristina Benzi, Gualberto Venezia (x). RADICAL: Horacio Usandizaga, Carlos Fabrissin, Lilian del Fabro. OTHERS: Alberto Natale (Progressive Democrat), Enrique Llopis (Socialist)

Santiago del Estero

JUSTICIALIST: Mercedes Aragones de Juarez, RADICAL: Jose Luis Zavalia, Jose Sarquis.

Tierra del Fuego

JUSTICIALIST: Esteban Martinez, OTHER: Nestor Muriel (Mopof [expansion unknown])

Tucuman

JUSTICIALIST: Gioconda Perrini, Jose Vittar. RADICAL: Rodolfo Campero. OTHERS: Antonio Domingo Bussi (Republican Force)

(x)= incumbent deputy.

Bolivia

New Police General Staff Members Installed

PY0610010693

[Editorial Report] La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish on 28 September carries on page A2 an unattributed 600-word Fides News Agency article reporting that "the structure of the National Police General Command has been reorganized barely two months after the advent of a four-party coalition government."

The article explains that "This Monday, General Einar Lopez, National Police commander, surprisingly installed the new General Staff members, who will run the police for a short time before the legislative and executive branches approve the General Orders of Promotions and Assignments."

The article adds: "As of this Monday, the General Police Staff members are: national chief, General Jose Parada Grandy (confirmed); national personnel director, Colonel Celso Hernani Lopez; national intelligence director, Colonel German Linares (confirmed); national administrative director, Colonel Willy Arriaza Monge; national planning director, Colonel Angel Echalar; national director of technical and auxiliary services, Colonel Ramon Esprella Campos; national identifications director, Colonel Juan Soliz Brigs; national interpol director, Colonel Guillermo Valverde; national health director, Colonel Luis Reynoldos; national director of training and education, Colonel Jose Velez Daza."

Brazil

Bolivian Choppers Enter Airspace; U.S. Involved

PY0610002093 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] A Bolivian air patrol invaded Brazil's airspace to capture drug traffickers who were in two planes. The patrol fired at the planes, which made an emergency landing in Rondonia, where they were seized by Brazilian police.

Two helicopters from the Leopard squad, the elite Bolivian unit that fights drug trafficking, invaded Brazilian airspace near Costa Marques, in Rondonia, on the Brazilian border. The helicopters were trying to capture two Bolivian planes that were transporting cocaine. During the chase, the traffickers' planes landed in Costa Marques. They abandoned the planes and escaped. The Bolivian helicopters landed immediately thereafter to investigate, but they returned to their base in Trinidad, Bolivia. The two planes were taken to the Porto Velho air base and are under Brazilian Air Force custody. Police found bullet hits and cocaine traces in the planes.

The case has been under investigation by Rondonia civil police since 30 September, when the planes landed in Brazilian territory. Five of the seven traffickers were arrested.

It has been learned that two Bolivian Leopard squad members, accompanied by two U.S. policemen, attempted to question the Costa Marques airport guard, an action that is illegal without Brazilian authorization. In the next few hours, Itamaraty will be officially informed about the invasion of Brazilian territory. Itamaraty should ask for an explanation from the Bolivian Government because this is a diplomatic case.

Supreme Court Annuls Constitutional Revision Session

PY0610011193 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Federal Supreme Court member Marco Aurelio has issued an injunction annulling a congressional session during which the constitutional revision bill was read. The decision entails suspension of the revision work, which was scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Judge Marco Aurelio explained that lawmakers will have to start all over again, that is, they will draw up a new revision bill, which will be read during a joint session with the appropriate quorum. Two sessions will be held immediately thereafter for debating the bill and a third one for voting on it.

The injunction was issued in response to a request for protection filed by four political parties in connection with a joint congressional session on 22 September, when the revision bill was read without the appropriate quorum.

Senator Humberto Lucena, the president of Congress and the Constitutional Revision Assembly, just reported that he will appeal the Supreme Court decision granting an injunction that suspended the 22 September session, which set 6 October as the date for beginning the constitutional revision. Lucena also canceled the opening constitutional revision session, which was scheduled for 1100 tomorrow. He said he will call for the scheduled session only if the Supreme Court modifies its decision. Lucena is certain the constitutional revision will take place, because, as he said, it is constitutional.

Israeli Deputy Minister Meets Brazilian Counterpart

TA0510150293 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Brazil will continue to offer its help in solving the problem of Israel's POWs and MIAs, the Brazilian foreign minister today promised in a meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin, who is visiting South America. Our correspondent Netan'el Semrik reports:

Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin is currently visiting South America. Today he met with the Brazilian foreign minister and thanked him for his help with regard to the Israel's POWs and MIAs. The Brazilian minister promised to raise the issue in his upcoming meetings with officials in Tehran and said he would especially seek information about captive navigator Ron Arad.

At the meeting, Deputy Foreign Minister Beilin asked Brazil to vote against UN resolutions which are opposed to Israel's policy. The Brazilian minister said the agreement between Israel and the PLO would permit his country to carry out some changes in its policy. He also expressed interest in investments in the Gaza Strip, especially with regard to technological know-how and assistance. Deputy Minister Yosi Beilin is currently on his way to Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, where he will meet with President Carlos Menem tomorrow morning and also raise the issue of Israel's POWs and MIAs.

Minister: Measures, Settlement of Public Accounts

PY0510201293 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso said today that without the settlement of public accounts any economic measure would be demagogic. The minister participated in a debate on constitutional revision at the national meeting of mayors. He said that a spirit of imposition cannot prevail in the revision issue.

After the meeting with the finance minister, the message is that the municipalities want to redefine their role. They will accept new responsibilities, but they want more money in exchange. Deputy Nelson Jobim, who

has been suggested as the sponsor for the constitutional revision, agrees with this. He said it is necessary to reach an agreement on the best way of fighting poverty:

[Begin recording] The constitutional draft [words indistinct] federal pact must reverse the traditional [word indistinct]. What the municipalities cannot do will be done by the states, and what the states cannot do will be done by the nation. With this, you reconcile the various segments of the Brazilian federal system. [end recording]

The finance minister said concerning the constitutional revision that the government will not impose anything. He said proposals still have not been defined, but the idea is to raise new funds to finance the federal government, states, and municipalities. For this purpose, the minister said, everything will have to be negotiated. He said he will personally participate in these negotiations. The minister already has a meeting scheduled with the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] this week.

Minister Fernando Henrique added that he will not take any measure before the constitutional revision. It would be demagoguery, the minister said. A blow against inflation, he emphasized, depends on settling the public accounts:

[Begin recording] The settlement of public accounts alone is missing. This does not depend on me alone, not at all. It depends on Congress. It depends on the nation. Before this, any measure that I implement would be demagoguery because it would be defeated by an inability to build in the future, that is, to maintain the measures because of fiscal imbalance. [end recording]

Fernando Henrique Cardoso added that the government will barely review the dismissals described as illegal under the Collor government. These dismissals involve about 15,000 public servants. The other 55,000 government officials who asked to be reinstated will not be reinstated because they collected their compensations correctly.

Army Participation in Antidrug Fight Noted

PY0510212593

[Editorial Report] Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese on 3 October carries on page C3 a 600-word article by Helio Contreiras and Chico Otavio, reporting that "the plan to fight drug trafficking with the Army's cooperation is already being implemented in Rio de Janeiro." The article says: "The Eastern Military Command (CML) has granted Governor Leonel Brizola's request, which was submitted following the Coroado ghetto confrontation in Acari, to give powerful weapons to and to train the Military Police."

The article explains that "the 1st Special Forces' Battalion, which is headquartered in the Military Village, will train the policemen," adding that "the war against organized crime then will be waged by a joint Army and Military, Civil, and Federal Police force."

The same newspaper carries on the same page a 500-word unattributed article saying: "President Itamar Franco's opposition to intervention in Rio de Janeiro State, the intervention should be officially announced, has almost produced a government crisis, placing the military and Justice Minister Mauricio Correa on opposite sides." The article quotes Correa as saying he is unaware "of the existence of a joint plan by the Army and the Federal Police."

The article adds: "The statements by President Itamar Franco, made known on Thursday through spokesman Francisco Baker, that he was only waiting for an official request from Rio de Janeiro Gov. Leonel Brizola to order an intervention, were interpreted by political groups as an indication that the government favors a military operation in Rio de Janeiro."

Chile

Aylwin on Human Rights Violations, Demonstration

PY0510124893 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Those allegedly involved in human rights violations are not discharging any political or administrative duties in my government. This was stated by Chilean President Patricio Aylwin during a news conference in the city of Wellington, New Zealand. He thus answered a question on whether any of those involved in serious human rights violations remain active in his administration. The Chilean president also commented on a small protest demonstration that a small group of Chileans staged in Auckland. He said:

[Begin recording] I want to discuss the behavior or attitude of a small group of compatriots. According to information available to me, just six people were joined by some New Zealanders who know little about the Chilean reality. By their attitude, these people showed they yearn for the past. [end recording]

Discussing the Chilean protesters, President Aylwin added:

[Begin recording] Fortunately, I feel that the overwhelming majority of Chileans think differently and view the present rather than remembering the past like these small groups. [end recording]

The president also denied that torturers are active in our country. He said that trials are being handled by the courts and that, in many cases, an amnesty decree-law issued during General Augusto Pinochet's period prevails. In conclusion, Aylwin noted that his government has decided that the human rights cases should be definitely resolved.

Russian Housing, Finance Ministry Officials Visit

PY0510160593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Two high-ranking technical officials from Boris Yeltsin's government are visiting our country to familiarize themselves with the Chilean housing financing system in order to adapt it to the Russian reality.

Boris Smirnov from the housing policy department of the Russian Ministry of Public Works and Housing and Nadecha Maksimova from the financial programs department of the Russian Ministry of Finance have met with [Chilean Housing and Urban Affairs] Minister Alberto Etchegaray. The visitors were accompanied by World Bank consultant Teresa Sancho. The members of the Russian delegation reported that the Chilean housing and urban affairs minister briefed them on our country's housing policy and that they discussed the programs being implemented in Russia.

Boris Smirnov indicated that his country is currently beginning a housing reform, including an accelerated privatization in this sector. He added that there is already a legal basis to achieve this, especially concerning private property, and that the Russian Government considers the housing policy as a priority and one of the most important lines to be implemented. He added that this experience with the Chilean housing system is very useful.

Smirnov pointed out that he chose to visit Chile because our experience is known increasingly worldwide and international consultants as well as World Bank officers recommend the Chilean reality in the field of housing financing.

The Russian officials also studied various house construction projects with housing subsidies, became acquainted with some aspects of the production of construction materials, and held working meetings with Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry experts.

Government Ratifies Convention on Net Fishing

PY0510150593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Chile has ratified the Wellington Convention protocol, which bans the use of some fishing nets. Basically, the convention bans the type of fishing whose advocates—usually multinational companies—use nets some 50 km long by 8 meters deep [as heard], with which they catch not only what they want but also larger creatures like sharks, dolphins, and even whales.

With the ratification of the protocol, Chile confirms that it will not use this type of nets, which it does not use anyway. It also bans others from doing so within the 200-mile economic exclusion zone.

The sources said the move is a political gesture. South Pacific coastal countries are permitted to join the convention. During the ceremony ratifying the protocol, Foreign Minister Henrique Silva Cimma said this is a new Chilean step in the long and sustained effort to defend marine life.

He said Chile has made its voice heard, repeatedly warning of the dangers of irrational exploitation of the sea. Silva Cimma recognized that this norm will present difficulties, adding that we must stay alert and seek all possible cooperation formulas to enforce it. Silva Cimma said during the ceremony in Wellington, New Zealand, that this challenge brings New Zealand and Chile closer.

New Zealand Signs Antarctic Cooperation Declaration

PY0510141993 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Chile and New Zealand have committed themselves to jointly strive for the development of Antarctica.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Donald McKinnon and Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva have signed a joint declaration on Antarctic cooperation. In the declaration, they commit themselves to prepare a research program on the dynamics of marine ice. This program involves the establishment of ties between the Chilean scientists working at Chilean installations on the Antarctic peninsula and the New Zealand scientists working at the New Zealand installation in the Ross Sea. They also commit themselves to exchange technological research and scientific information in this field and to improve and train New Zealand and Chilean scientists at their respective installations.

PCCh Head Teitelboim on Rapprochement to PSCh

PY0510180593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] President Volodia Teitelboim has said: Our consensus with the Socialist Party of Chile [PSCh] will increase. It will be a process, he emphasized. For the time being, he ruled out, as being unrealistic, any communist support for candidates from the Coalition Alliance's left. Asked how this rapprochement between socialists and communists might happen, Teitelboim indicated the following:

[Begin recording] I believe the next government, if it is of the Coalition Alliance, which is quite likely to happen, will be a government with many crises among the parties. I also believe it will be a government without that factor of restraint, which is the hope that a government will implement its platform. [end recording]

Volodia Teitelboim emphasized that the votes of the left will be for MIDA [Allendist Leftist Democratic Movement] candidate Eugenio Pizarro. He said that poll results are being manipulated to influence the voters and

do not reflect the voters' beliefs. Teitelboim thus downplayed the importance of the small percentage of support for Pizarro that recent polls have indicated. Pizarro is behind independent candidate Manfred Max Neff and more then 50 points behind Coalition Alliance candidate [Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle].

Pinochet Visits Brazil, Israel Trip Unconfirmed

PY0510130793 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] General Augusto Pinochet and his wife Lucia Hiriart spent the weekend at the elegant resort town of Buzios, one of the most beautiful areas in Rio de Janeiro's northern coasts. The Chilean Army commander in chief is staying at the luxurious Intercontinental Hotel, in the San Conrado neighborhood of Rio.

Diplomatic sources told Radio Cooperativa that Pinochet's trip to Brazil is private and that he is on vacation, even though tomorrow he will be received and honored by Gen. Rubens Bayma Denys, Brazilian Army Southeast Command chief.

Pinochet, his wife, and his entourage of two security agents and an assistant spent the day shopping in Rio de Janeiro. Rumors of an alleged visit to Israel and the Slovak Republic were not confirmed by the sources consulted by Radio Cooperative.

Pinochet will remain in Brazil for the rest of the week. He will then go to Argentina from where he will return to Chile. Beside his two security agents, Pinochet has the protection of Brazilian Army special agents.

Colombia

Prosecutor on Drug Traffickers, U.S. Cooperation

PA0510162393 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Report by Javier Dario Restrepo; from the "24 Hours" newscast]

[Text] Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff explained that Cali drug traffickers will not surrender to the justice system as long as Pablo Escobar remains free. According to the prosecutor general, the Cali drug traffickers fear they will be murdered while in prison. He also commented on the scarce U.S. Government cooperation with Colombian justice.

Drug trafficking is an international criminal activity, but Colombia is being left alone in the court rooms where drug traffickers are being tried. This was the main issue reported today by Colombia's prosecutor general during an international seminar on legalizing drugs that took place at Los Andes University. Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff said that neither U.S. nor European judicial authorities cooperate with or respect the Colombian justice system.

[Begin de Greiff recording] What really rouses my indignation is that we are being accused of not sentencing drug traffickers even when we do not have sufficient evidence. In addition, we are being expected to penalize with weak evidence, as if we were not a civilized country. [end recording]

Despite this, efforts by the Colombian authorities have not ceased.

[Begin de Greiff recording] During the past two weeks there have been more than 200 operations in Cali that have been, unfortunately, unsuccessful. [end recording]

AD/M-19 Leader Presents Commitments If Elected

PA0510203393 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Report by Raul Gutierrez; from the "24 Hours" newscast]

[Text] Today, AD/M-19 [19 April Movement Democratic Alliance] leader Antonio Navarro Wolff presented the 100 commitments his administration is prepared to follow if he is elected president. The AD/M-19 candidate says he is prepared to carry out these commitments regardless of what takes place. One of Navarro's 100 commitments is related to peace. To achieve peace, he is prepared to hold negotiations with the CNGSB [Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board] within a specific time limit and recognize it as a political and military organization.

[Begin Navarro recording] Any negotiation must be a [word indistinct] negotiation. [end recording]

Social debt, the environment, the struggle against corruption, as well as a development program benefiting the lower groups first are the central points of Navarro's proposals. Answering questions on the situation in Moscow and comparing it to what took place nine years ago in Santa Fe de Bogota during the justice palace takeover, Navarro Wolff answered:

[Begin Navarro recording] I believe there are certain fundamental values in every human being that cannot be overstepped in the name of democracy of political realities. [end recording]

With respect to international politics, one of Navarro's promises deals with supporting the integration of the Latin American economic community based on agreements and cooperation treaties.

Socialist Renewal Movement Wants Talks To Resume

PA0510132993 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Oct 93

[From the "Up to the Minute Caracol" newscast]

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota—The Socialist Renewal Movement's demands that the government resume peace talks are the appointment of a peace counselor to ensure that the Army does not become a loose wheel in the process and the offering of genuine guarantees to the members of guerrilla factions who rejoin civilian life. The conditions imposed by EPL [Popular Liberation Army] dissidents were delivered in Flor del Monte, Sucre, to Monsignor (Anel Beltran), who has actively participated in the rapprochement between the insurgent faction and the government.

(Gabriel Borja), one of the leaders of the Socialist Renewal Movement, has said his group is open to efforts to find a political solution to the arms conflict facing the country. He demanded, however, a strict compliance with governmental offers, especially those concerning the protection of the rebels who are participating in the process.

Paraguay

Oviedo Dismisses Coup Rumors, Silent About Carter

PY0510221793 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 5 Oct 93 p 3

[Text] Division General Lino Cesar Oviedo publicly guaranteed that President Juan Carlos Wasmosy will complete his term in office as long as he is the Army commander. He thus ruled out rumors of possible uprisings or coups d'etat. Upon being asked by the press about this issue, the current Paraguayan Army commander stated: "So long as I am the Army commander, I can guarantee with absolute certainty that he will finish his presidency all right."

Gen. Oviedo declined to comment on the concern voiced by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to Wasmosy concerning Gen. Oviedo's involvement in politics and the establishment of a political party by the military. "I do not wish to give my opinion about a statement made by Mr. Jimmy Carter. And least of all will I voice my opinion about what he says. Perhaps he is misinformed," he pointed out.

Upon being asked about the Colorado Party Democratic Nationalist Movement (Monadeco) [Movimiento Nacionalista Democratico Colorado], Gen. Oviedo said he had not heard about that movement even though he acknowledged he had met Navy Captain Pedro Centurion (retired). Gen. Oviedo also declined to make any comments on his possible candidacy, while indicating that he did not wish to engage in predicting the future.

He also stated that the government should disclose information on the joint police and military operation to fight crime. He underlined that an operation of such importance should not be mounted in secret and least of all in silence. He added that an evaluation of the situation will be made tomorrow, 6 October, to learn about the operation's results and that the interior minister is in charge of convening a meeting.

Gen. Oviedo was asked whether he had data about a drop in the crime rate in those places where the operation was conducted. "Whenever security measures are instituted, the crime rate diminishes if the operation is successful in achieving its goal." He asserted that the objective will be attained because it has been perfectly planned and has been entrusted to trustworthy people.

Peru

Fujimori Interviewed on Guzman Letter

PA0510185593 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Interview with President Alberto Fujimori by Guido Lombardi in Lima on the "Panorama" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Lombardi] As announced, we are here today with Engineer Alberto Fujimori Fujimori, president of the Republic. Good evening, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] Good evening.

[Lombardi] Thank you for being on "Panorama" after a very busy week in New York. First let us discuss the main issue. Perhaps we can discuss other aspects of your trip later. You announced during the 48th UN General Assembly that you received a letter from Abimael Guzman. That had a great impact in Peru. Tonight in a message to the nation, you showed Guzman himself reading the letter.

[Fujimori] There is no doubt about the authenticity of the letter.

[Lombardi] There should be no doubt about the letter's authenticity for any person in his right mind. It remains to be seen whether Shining Path members, who are still free, are capable of understanding. But there are a number of details that I believe interest the public, Mr. President. How were Elena Iparraguirre [Comrade Miriam] and Abimael Guzman brought together to agree on the text of that letter? Was the letter their initiative or that of the National Intelligence Service?

[Fujimori] It is a good question because both of these inmates are serving life sentences and are totally isolated during their first year in prison. Obviously, they cannot receive visitors much less converse, not even under exceptional conditions.

[Lombardi] In other words, was that meeting held after 12 September.

[Fujimori] No, no, no. Once they were transferred to the naval base, these kinds of meetings with the so-called Comrade Miriam took place. However, because the aforementioned prohibition exists, the military jurisdiction was instructed to grant express authorization. That

facilitated the meeting seen on video. Naturally there were several other meetings to reach the said accord.

[Lombardi] There are some interesting points about the video; for instance, the uniforms. How did they acquire uniforms in place of the famous striped uniform? Did they request a different uniform?

[Fujimori] Well, when they are in prison they do not wear their striped uniform. As I have said, television stations frequently requested videos of Abimael Guzman. I saw him wearing rather inappropriate clothing while walking on the patio. Because a video was to be shot, I instructed the envoy to buy him some decent clothes. They hastily bought a pair of coveralls. These coveralls are similar to those worn by Mao or Arafat. He appears there wearing his coveralls. Now, I would like to make another observation...

[Lombardi, interrupting] What did Guzman say when you offered him that uniform?

[Fujimori] They were obviously very happy. [sentence as heard] Another thing is that he does not read from the paper.

[Lombardi] Did he memorize the letter?

[Fujimori] No. I do not think he was able to use a teleprompter similar to the ones you use here, either. I think he was shown a piece of cardboard with the text in capitals and he began to read.

[Lombardi] Mr. President, what other information from Guzman's envoy do you have for the public?

[Fujimori] The envoy spoke with Abimael Guzman and with Elena Iparraguirre separately. Guzman has periodically been informed of Shining Path's situation. During one of those conversations, Abimael Guzman said a few things.

[Lombardi] Like what?

[Fujimori] For instance, he told the envoy the story of Nora, his first wife. She died somewhere in Lima and her body was delivered to Yovanka Pardave and Tite Valle Traversano. After they took the body, there was no more news about it. But in the house of Monterrico, where former Nun Evans was hiding and a video was shot, they kept Nora's sentimental and personal valuables. Abimael Guzman asked about some of those little things. He said he did not see some of the things when police displayed what they had found. He asked the envoy about his wife's Seiko watch and a gold pen. He said he would like to see them. [passage omitted]

[Lombardi] Mr. President, you claim that Comrade Miriam, that is, Elena, was more difficult than Abimael. How was this harshness evident? What were Elena's arguments to turn down this request?

[Fujimori] Well, almost at the time when Abimael Guzman was ready to sign this message, there was a meeting among the three. That is when Abimael Guzman tried to convince her.

[Lombardi] Was Abimael convincing?

[Fujimori] Well, he attempted to convince her because Elena Iparraguirre was more reticent about the step that was going to be taken.

(Lombardi] When was this meeting held?

[Fujimori] The meeting was held... [pauses] There were several meetings. One of them coincided with Elena Iparraguirre's birthday. Very humane treatment was accorded, although not without the required strictures. The talks were under way. I suggested that, because it was Elena Iparraguirre's birthday, a cake be taken. The three of them celebrated. She cut the cake. She gave a piece to Abimael Guzman first, not to the envoy. They did not sing "Happy Birthday" because it was inappropriate.

[Lombardi] [laughs] Here we are in this very revealing moment. What was their initial reaction on meeting for the first time since having been imprisoned, sentenced, and isolated.

[Fujimori] Very emotional. There certainly was a very strong sentimental feeling; there is no doubt about that.

[Lombardi] You have mentioned the envoy three times. Abimael, Miriam, and the envoy. Who is the envoy? It is important that we know, because he has played a fundamental role. You touched on a core element concerning the nation's pacification when you made the announcement at the United Nations. Who is your collaborator in this?

[Fujimori] It is a secret envoy.

[Lombardi] I guess his name has to remain secret. I guess that in another country they would call him... [pauses] Can we say that your answer does not rule out the participation of Dr. Montesinos?

[Fujimori] I do not want to say, but I will rule out one name that has been mentioned. My attention was drawn by the fact that it was said that Lusa...

[Lombardi, interrupting] Are you familiar with him?

[Fujimori] Absolutely not, not within 50 meters.

[Lombardi] But is he one of your collaborators?

[Fujimori] Absolutely not. And he certainly had been ratified [as heard] At the outset, it was said he wrote my speeches. [laughs] Then there was another so-called [word indistinct]. He does not belong to the intelligence service.

[Lombardi] In any event, this envoy is a member of the intelligence service?

[Fujimori] Of the intelligence service.

[Lombardi] At your request, he took the initiative?

[Fujimori] It was not at my request, but on my orders.

[Lombardi] You ordered it.

[Fujimori] Yes. I kind of like giving orders.

[Lombardi] You ordered it, and the envoy sounded out Guzman and Elena Iparraguirre about the terms of their pronouncement. How was the reaction of Guzman, who said: Well, all right, I have thought about it and will address the president of the Republic. How did these negotiations come about?

[Fujimori] It was not a negotiation, but rather...

[Lombardi, interrupting] An endeavor, which began on 28 July.

[Fujimori] Yes, of course, since the envoy had been going to Callao Naval Base. Following that time, there were talks and some progress. I suppose Abimael Guzman had made several attempts to somewhat soften the terms to make them more acceptable to the addressee. In fact, the tone of the letter is very respectful.

I believe that certain comments can be made; these are marginal but quite interesting. For example, he continues to think that his Marxists philosophy will turn into what he calls the Philosophy of Gonzalo. His thoughts continue along those lines, but he acknowledges and takes that step, that he labels as transcendental, as a historical need, to look for peace. For me this is very clear. He is telling the Shining Path members to give up the sixth military plan that was being implemented.

[Lombardi] How will the Shining Path members react to this message? What do you think will happen in the coming 30 days?

[Fujimori] There could be reactions somewhat disorderly. Some will hasten to avail themselves of the repentance law, while others, more distrustful, could react in a more violent form. The truth is that we cannot forecast what will happen, but if you will allow me, I would like to show you something very interesting. They are not speaking from their cells; they were not transferred to an ordinary office, rather they were take to an adequate room. There is even a curtain behind them and [words indistinct].

[Lombardi] Where is that room, is it inside the penitentiary....

[Fujimori, interrupting] Yes, it is inside the penitentiary.

[Lombardi] Mr. President, why has this type of gesture not been applied, through that [not further identified] or any other emissary, to Victor Polay, the Tupac Amaru chief, who is also in prison and condemned to life in prison.

[Fujimori] With due authorization we have attempted a rapprochement with him. This is what we call a, quote, systematic approach, unquote; that is, to talk, not to negotiate. This guy is full of self-importance. I think we will have to [word indistinct], talk with him, let him know what is going on, what the latest developments are in the antiterrorist struggle, and how the state has gained ground. Messages have been sent to Polay, but there has not been any reaction from him.

[Lombardi] What is your own reaction regarding Guzman's letter. Some have called it total capitulation. Do you interpret this as total capitulation? Is not that bordering on excessive triumphalism?

[Fujimori] No, this is not total capitulation. We could label it close to capitulation. He interprets this more like instructions for his followers to suspend the sixth military plan. There will be more details after. I have no doubts there will be more coming, because this contact is continuing; even right now, this is going on.

[Lombardi] Guzman saw himself on television tonight....

[Fujimori, interrupting] No, he does not have access to a television set.

[Lombardi] Not even under these circumstances?

[Fujimori] No, not at this time, but I am sending him a reply. The reply is contained in tonight's message.

[Lombardi] You consider this as your reply to his letter?

[Fujimori] Yes I do. Obviously, he is expecting a reply from me; therefore, I am telling him....

[Lombardi, interrupting] Then he has had access to this message?

[Fujimori] I am certain he is seeing the message now.

[Lombardi] For what did they ask? What was negotiated? Are they clearly aware that there will not be any reduction in their sentences, that this will not be negotiated in any way? They must have asked for something in exchange of....

[Fujimori, interrupting] No, no....

[Lombardi, interrupting] Was it Nora's watch, Nora's pen, or similar objects, what [words indistinct]?

[Fujimori] They are conscious of this. We are studying the possibility of reducing the strict measures in the prison. As you know, this prison is very harsh....

[Lombardi, interrupting] What about the state of incommunicado, how strict is this? For example, their lack of access to reading materials. Could this ruling be softened so they have access to books....

[Fujimori, interrupting] When peace is achieved in Peru, we could be more flexible with these, quote, gestures, unquote, such as changing Guzman's location, and making conditions less rigorous.

[Lombardi] For what do you think Guzman would ask, were he in a position to ask for something? Could it be books or a television set?

[Fujimori] I suppose that he would see his woman, Elena Iparraguirre.

[Lombardi] You believe that would be his wish?

[Fujimori] If you were in his shoes, you would do the same. [Fujimori and Lombardi laughing]

[Lombardi] Maybe we would ask to see our women and something else.

[Fujimori] Yes, it is possible.

[Lombardi] [Passage omitted] We are still speaking with President Fujimori about the announcement he made at the United Nations on Guzman's letter and the video he showed us tonight. Perhaps, we should see that video clip again in order that we can comment on it. It is truly impressive. Guzman is addressing a television camera, saying the same things he said in his letter. Some might doubt the integrity of the letter, while others might even say his handwriting had been forged. Now, you have brought us a notebook taken from Guzman.

[Fujimori] Yes, it is a notebook seized in May 1990. You can observe the handwriting. I do not know if it can be seen on the camera.

[Lombardi] Yes, we can now see a page of the notebook and a page of the letter. It is very evident.

[Fujimori] These notations were written in May 1990, a few days after the elections.

[Lombardi] It is very impressive to see how these notes were written in such an orderly and neat fashion. He made use of every bit of space.

[Fujimori] This is a notebook with graph paper.

[Lombardi] He used every single space, every square. He wrote in such a neat manner. There are no scratches.

[Fujimori] He highlighted the important concepts.

[Lombardi] There is only one erasure. Here is something written on 5 August.

[Fujimori] It seems he was keeping a diary of some meetings.

[Lombardi] Here it read: C2-A [not further identified] report.

[Fujimori] This was at the beginning of his pleasant meeting with a special envoy. There is an entire collection of similar documents.

[Lombardi] He has done the highlighting himself. When these announcements were made, some speculated that this action was something that had been prepared or studied, as a result of the so-called Stockholm Syndrome that occurs between a prisoner and his captors. Some claim this would explain Guzman's reaction.

[Fujimori] Undoubtedly, the treatment given to Abimael Guzman, Elena Iparraguirre, and all the terrorists has been very good. There has not been any mistreatment. There is the discipline of prisons, as they deserve, but the treatment has been very humane.

[Lombardi] Have you had any personal contact with Abimael Guzman?

[Fujimori] (?Yes, I have.) Certain topics have been discussed, historical, philosophical topics. There have been discussions about Marxism, Maoism, and so forth.

[Lombardi] Is it true that the envoy has even played chess with Abimael?

[Fujimori] No, that is not true.

[Lombardi] Nevertheless, the Stockholm Syndrome explains the reaction in part. That is a natural reaction to good treatment. As part of the good treatment, have you sent a gift to Elena Iparraguirre, for example?

[Fujimori] Yes, well, yes, look. [as heard] No, no, please let us draw any conclusions that the Stockholm Syndrome is affecting the envoy and [words indistinct]. We are always fully aware of this, and in addition, each one of these people who work there are being checked very carefully. There are no problems there. It is very important when there is this good disposition on their part. It is good to give humane treatment. She was very grateful indeed to receive a cake amid her loneliness.

[Lombardi] What other gestures of this nature have there been?

[Fujimori] Well, since I knew that she likes Andean handicrafts, I sent her one from a collection I have. I sent her one with my greetings on her birthday. She was very grateful. She liked the handicraft. We cannot say there are symptoms of repentance [words indistinct].

[Lombardi] It does not seem like that, judging from the contents of the letter. Let us avail ourselves of the moment now to listen once again to Abimael Guzman reading his letter. This would be very interesting. I would like for the director to run the video with the segment of the message to the president, where Abimael Guzman reads his letter to Engineer Fujimori. [passage omitted]

[Fujimori] I believe that certain comments can be made; these are marginal but quite interesting. For example, he continues to think that his Marxists philosophy will turn into what he calls the Philosophy of Gonzalo. His thoughts continue along those lines, but he acknowledges and takes that step, that he labels as transcendental, as a historical need, to look for peace. For me this is very clear. He is telling the Shining Path members to give up the sixth military plan that was being implemented.

[Lombardi] How will the Shining Path members react to this message? What do you think will happen in the coming 30 days?

[Fujimori] There could be reactions somewhat disorderly. Some will hasten to avail themselves of the repentance law, while others, more distrustful, could react in a more violent form. The truth is that we cannot forecast what will happen, but if you will allow me, I would like to show you something very interesting. They are not speaking from their cells; they were not transferred to an ordinary office, rather they were take to an adequate room. There is even a curtain behind them and [words indistinct].

[Lombardi] Where is that room, is it inside the penitentiary....

[Fujimori, interrupting] Yes, it is inside the penitentiary.

[Lombardi] Mr. President, why has this type of gesture not been applied, through that [not further identified] or any other emissary, to Victor Polay, the Tupac Amaru chief, who is also in prison and condemned to life in prison.

[Fujimori] With due authorization we have attempted a rapprochement with him. This is what we call a, quote, systematic approach, unquote; that is, to talk, not to negotiate. This guy is full of self-importance. I think we will have to [word indistinct], talk with him, let him know what is going on, what the latest developments are in the antiterrorist struggle, and how the state has gained ground. Messages have been sent to Polay, but there has not been any reaction from him.

[Lombardi] What is your own reaction regarding Guzman's letter. Some have called it total capitulation. Do you interpret this as total capitulation? Is not that bordering on excessive triumphalism?

[Fujimori] No, this is not total capitulation. We could label it close to capitulation. He interprets this more like instructions for his followers to suspend the sixth military plan. There will be more details after. I have no doubts there will be more coming, because this contact is continuing; even right now, this is going on.

[Lombardi] Guzman saw himself on television tonight....

[Fujimori, interrupting] No, he does not have access to a television set.

[Lombardi] Not even under these circumstances?

[Fujimori] No, not at this time, but I am sending him a reply. The reply is contained in tonight's message.

[Lombardi] You consider this as your reply to his letter?

[Fujimori] Yes I do. Obviously, he is expecting a reply from me; therefore, I am telling him....

[Lombardi, interrupting] Then he has had access to this message?

[Fujimori] I am certain he is seeing the message now.

[Lombardi] For what did they ask? What was negotiated? Are they clearly aware that there will not be any reduction in their sentences, that this will not be negotiated in any way? They must have asked for something in exchange of....

[Fujimori, interrupting] No, no....

[Lombardi, interrupting] Was it Nora's watch, Nora's pen, or similar objects, what [words indistinct]?

[Fujimori] They are conscious of this. We are studying the possibility of reducing the strict measures in the prison. As you know, this prison is very harsh....

[Lombardi, interrupting] What about the state of incommunicado, how strict is this? For example, their lack of access to reading materials. Could this ruling be softened so they have access to books....

[Fujimori, interrupting] When peace is achieved in Peru, we could be more flexible with these, quote, gestures, unquote, such as changing Guzman's location, and making conditions less rigorous.

[Lombardi] For what do you think Guzman would ask, were he in a position to ask for something? Could it be books or a television set?

[Fujimori] I suppose that he would see his woman, Elena Iparraguirre.

[Lombardi] You believe that would be his wish?

[Fujimori] If you were in his shoes, you would do the same. [Fujimori and Lombardi laughing]

[Lombardi] Maybe we would ask to see our women and something else.

[Fujimori] Yes, it is possible.

[Lombardi] Mr. President, the military meaning of Guzman's letter is not surrender; you called it practically a capitulation. In your message today, you called it the Shining Path's political command.

[Fujimori] I would like to clarify the political directorate.

[Lombardi] Shining Path's political directorate. Why do you believe that they belong to the Shining Path's political directorate?

[Fujimori] That is something we all know. We have an organizational chart.

[Lombardi] There is no doubt this existed before 12 December.

[Fujimori] Yes, in addition, this is information supplied by Abimael Guzman, which we have checked out with other sources, and we knew perfectly well who comprised the Shining Path's permanent political directorate committee.

[Lombardi] The topic of the repented has, under these circumstances, become especially important; that is, the treatment the Peruvian state will give those who repent and supply useful and important information. Do you believe most repented have been treated properly? Not only those who supply information but also those who participate in military operations together with police or military forces; afterward, are they always given security and the possibility of earning a living that the state promised it would give?

[Fujimori] I watched a case on one of the television programs where a man was claiming that these guarantees are due to him. I have ordered that if this is indeed the case and he has not been given this guarantee that this be corrected, including the possibility of a job, a change of his identity, and even a small [word indistinct] to help him pull through.

[Lombardi] Even have his eyes made to look more Chinese, you said.

[Fujimori] Make his eyes look Chinese.

[Lombardi] [laughs] [passage omitted]

Army Commander Says Terrorism 'On the Run'

PA0510150893 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Oct 93

[From the "Good Morning Peru" newscast]

[Text] General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, Army commanding general and commander of the Armed Forces Joint Command, has said that terrorism in Peru is on the run. He said evidence of this is the letter Abimael Guzman and Elena Iparraguirre sent to the president proposing a peace accord. Hermoza has stated, however, that the Armed Forces will not let their guard down and will remain on a permanent alert to guarantee citizens' security.

[Begin recording] [Hermoza] From the political standpoint, I believe the president has been very explicit when stating the implications and political importance of this letter and Guzman's attitude.

Concerning the Armed Forces and National Police, we will continue to fulfill the orders of the Armed Forces commander in chief and, as you know, will continue to make progress in the peace process. Nothing has changed. We are not overconfident. We will not let our guard down; on the contrary, I believe that this incident paves the way for the country to attain peace sooner than the president had pledged to the people.

[Unidentified reporter] Can you confirm or deny the statements by certain political violence analysts in our country that there has been a reorganization in the Shining Path Central Committee following Guzman's imprisonment more than a year ago?

[Hermoza] No, we do not know anything about that. They have continued to fulfill their plans, but this remark is countered by the success we have obtained in dismantling this group and facing this terrorist group head-on.

[Reporter] How do you interpret the last wave of Shining Path attacks against different public and private facilities?

[Hermoza] This is logical in a movement of this nature. This kind of action can be expected from such a criminal movement. In addition, the attacks cannot only be done by a group but even by a couple of individuals. As long as we do not capture those responsible or they themselves do not repent, we will have isolated attacks, but we are doing all we can to eliminate terrorism once and for all. That is why this political process initiated by the letter, and what may come afterward, is one more hope so that the peace process undertaken by President Fujimori can be achieved as early as possible. [end recording]

Dincote Reports Arrest of Lima Shining Path Leader

PA0510151093 Paris AFP in Spanish 1853 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] Lima, 30 Sep (AFP)—Police sources announced on Thursday that an important Shining Path leader, Juan Francisco Tulich Morales, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment in absentia for the assassination of Peruvian labor leader Pedro Huilca, was captured during an antisubversive operation in Lima. Tulich, who authorities impute dozens of assassinations, was taken into custody last Monday as he was attending a clandestine meeting with three other Shining Path operatives in an office in the heavily-populated Los Olivos district.

The National Counterterrorism Directorate (Dincote) had stated last February that the 25-year-old Tulich is in charge of or has overall responsibility for the Lima Metropolitan Committee, for which he has been condemned to life imprisonment by a military tribunal.

Huilca was assassinated at the end of December 1992 by a Shining Path commando, which according to the police was led by Margot Dominguez, a Shining Path member captured shortly after this incident.

It was pointed out that Tulich belongs to a family with many links to Shining Path. Two of his brothers died during a Lima prison mutiny by Shining Path members in June 1986, two other brothers are in prison, and a fifth is a fugitive from justice, according to the antiterrorist brigade.

It was also noted that Tulich is also responsible for the recent assassination of two lieutenants who were police academy instructors in Lima's northern sector and for a bomb attack on a police station in this same sector. These incidents occurred on 13 September, one day after the first anniversary of the capture of Abimael Guzman,

founder and leader of Shining Path, who is currently serving a life sentence in an underground prison run by the Navy in the neighboring port of El Callao.

* Yoshiyama: Economy 'Heart' of Constitution

93SM0452C Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish
12 Sep 93 p A5

[Unattributed article: "New Constitutional Draft Will Not Allow 'Ungovernability'"]

[Text] The suggestion that an ungovernable situation might arise with the new Constitution that is to go to a referendum was rejected yesterday by the president of the Constituent Congress, Jaime Yoshiyama, who emphasized that the economy is the "heart" of the new Constitution.

During an extensive radio interview, Yoshiyama several times called the 1979 Constitution which now governs us "mediocre" and the new draft approved a few weeks ago by the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress] "modern," even though the major legal concepts and basic provisions of the 1979 Constitution are repeated in the CCD's work.

He felt that all powers were attacked in the 1979 Constitution, while now greater independence and freedom are given to the Executive, to Parliament, and to the Judiciary. He said: "It will not make Peru ungovernable; it will be possible to become much more efficent."

Repeatedly describing the essence of the document approved by the Constituent Assembly in 1979 as "mediocre," Yoshiyama said it was put together by the "traditional political party leaders, and it became a Constitution resulting from deals, a sort of give-and-take arrangement."

"After 10 years, we had to look at how it worked," added the CCD president, saying that poor rulers had left a country which 75 percent of its people thought was ungovernable, with no discipline in the universities, jails taken over by terrorism, and a lack of investment and jobs.

Duration: Theoretical Concern

When asked about this Constitution's potential for endurance and stability, Yoshiyama called this a "theoretical concern." While the Constitution concentrates on generating more jobs and investment, "we have already made a fair amount of progress here."

He stated, as he had on former occasions, that the economic system approved by the CCD is designed to attact national or foreign private investors and create more jobs, "whereas the one in effect until now is very ambiguous and does not grant any security to investors."

He held the traditional political party leaders responsible for a campaign that is attempting to deceive the country with arguments like the elimination of free education and job stability.

On these points, Yoshiyama explained that in Peru there are 350,000 university students, and of them only a small percentage have to pay for their studies as they have been permanently disapproved based on their performance or for having political support, as well as students with sufficient economic resources.

When asked about the organization or group that will determine which students will have to pay for their studies, he said the National Assembly of University Presidents will have competence to make these decisions. As a basis for comparison, he added that of each 200 university students, only one would pay.

He indicated that the new constitutional draft protects job stability by granting the worker "adequate protection from arbitrary layoffs." He said this formula is also used in the opposition's bill.

Demagoguery

"The 1979 Constitution said demogagically that there was job stability, but statistics show that during Alan Garcia's government, of each 100 workers employed in 1985, by 1990 only half still had jobs. In no country in the world is job stability provided by law. Instead, there is job stability because new businesses and new industries are created, generating more jobs," he added.

In general terms, he said the Constitution approved by the majority is modern and will help to promote development and stability. The market plan, competition, and liberalization of foreign trade will enable institutions to be much more stable.

He added that in the work done by the Congress it was very important to have full flexiblity to listen to opinions, as is being done in the Lima Convention and as was done "during eight months of listening to and thinking with the minority (about the new Constitution)."

Cabinet Changes

On other issues, the president of the Congress refrained from commenting on the participation in the new cabinet of three of his close personal associates: member of congress Jaime Freundt, minister of health; as minister of education, Raul Vittor Alfaro, former general manger of the CCD; and the new foreign minister, Efrain Goldenberg.

"The fact that people I know well were appointed cabinet ministers only means that I have good friends," he said, noting that these areas deserve much attention and executive ability.

A year after the arrest of Abimael Guzman, the top leader of the terrorist group Shining Path, Jaime Yoshiyama hailed the Armed Forces, the Intelligence

Service, Dincote [Counterterrorism Directorate], and the National Police, saying that this was not solely the work of Dincote, but the result of coordination in the national defense system to bring about the capture of the entire terrorist leadership. "I believe the strategy of the counterterrorism fight is producing results, and we should not change one iota of this strategy," concluded the CCD president.

* Campaign for Constitutional Reform Under Way

* Fujimori: Not Political Campaign

93SM0448A Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Sep 93 p A4

[Unattributed article: "President Assumes Leadership of 'Yes' Campaign"]

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, Alberto Fujimori Fujimori, yesterday assumed leadership of the campaign for a "yes" vote in the referendum on the new constitution, when he opened the meeting of the New Majority-Change 90 alliance and spelled out the strategy to be pursued in the campaign leading up to the 31 October vote. [passage omitted]

He contended that the country is at an extremely important crossroads, because the issue at hand, he stated, is to approve the Program of National Reconstruction and Pacification.

"I am foremost in charge of this, and I am going to be very frank. What is involved, in short, is approving or disapproving of Fujimori," he asserted to applause from members of the so-called "formula 44."

Fujimori stated that neither power nor government office was at stake: "That does not matter. None of us is a politician. What is at stake here is the fate of National Reconstruction and of the country's modernization."

"Not Just an Election Campaign"

"I think that this is a magnificent opportunity to assert to the people, and to ourselves, that we are not looking at just an election campaign. The idea is not for the government and the opposition to cross swords once again," he stated.

He went on to say that the point is to support the government's specific efforts and to repudiate the people who once had a chance to govern and who left as a mark only their unkept promises. [passage omitted]

A Fork in the Road

In his speech the president was particularly emphatic in talking about his political opponents, announcing that the upcoming political campaign will bring citizens to a fork in the road.

"One branch, the yes vote, will lead us through dedication and hard work to full national development, to the full democratization of the country, and to an end to its management by the top echelons of party bureaucracies," he said.

"The other is the no vote, which means a rejection of the constitution that embodies the advances and accomplishments of the three years of National Reconstruction," he said. [passage omitted]

In touching on the issue of free education, the chief executive described as "brazen" those who claim that free university education is not provided for in the new constitution.

Later, referring to the "lifetime" university students who enjoy its benefits for 15 or 20 years, he invited newsmen to investigate who the presidents of the Federation of Peruvian Students and of the respective federations and committees at the universities of San Marcos, Engineering, and La Cantuta are and how many years they have spent there.

Fujimori indicated that most of these students were members of Shining Path who collected fees from university authorities, and "some of this money went into the jails to subsidize Shining Path inmates. It was hard for us to restore order and discipline in the universities. We have eradicated the terrorist infiltrators, and these efforts should not go to waste. We have to prevent a fresh infiltration," he cautioned.

Honing the American Antidrug Strategy

In subsequent remarks the president said that he did not want the United States to abandon its antidrug strategy; he was commenting on the withdrawal of DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] forces from the Santa Lucia Base in the Upper Huallaga.

In this connection he felt that the new administration may be making some adjustments and changes so that the U.S. antidrug strategy is more effective.

As for the continuation of Peru's struggle against drug trafficking, he spoke highly of the work that the air force and the army are doing in this connection by intercepting the light planes that transport drugs across borders and by destroying the airstrips that the traffickers build.

* 'No Public Funds'

93SM0448B Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 9 Sep 93 p A4

[Unattributed article: "Majority Bloc Begins Intensive Campaign for 'Yes' Vote Next Monday"]

[Text] The congressional delegation of New Majority-Change 90 will officially begin its campaign to have the new constitution approved next week, and Congressman Andres Reggiardo asserted that it would be financed by friends in the business world and private citizens.

"Under no circumstances will we use funds from the public treasury, and moreover we will disclose how much we spend on our campaign. We thus hope that the groups that are advocating a no vote do likewise and inform the citizenry about the source of their funding," he stated.

Campaign for a Yes Vote

Legislators from the alliance will be traveling to the interior of the country to publicize the scope of the new constitution and to develop support for its passage.

He asserted that this will in no way harm legislative efforts, "because we will make use of weekends and holidays and under no circmstances will we interrupt the workings of Congress."

To this end the alliance has established a campaign command made up of Andres Reggiardo and Luz Salgado, representing Change 90, and Demetrio Patsias, Oswaldo Sandoval, and Jorge Velasquez as delegates of New Majority.

A coordinator of the command has not been appointed yet.

Self-Funded

The lawmaker then pooh-poohed the rumors that the campaign for a yes vote was spending government money. He made it clear that all travel would be financed with contributions from businessmen friends, lawmakers themselves, and some private citizens.

"In any event," he maintained, "we will be up front in managing the money, and what is more, we can announce that we will make public all details. I think that the opposition parties and the ones that will be involved in the campaign for a no vote ought to follow our example, as the alliance did during the campaign for the elections of the Democratic Constitutional Congress," he said.

Reggiardo also defended the chief of state's right to take part in the campaign for the new constitution, adding that he was certain that it would win by a wide majority.

* C90 Leader: Job Security Goal

93SM0448C Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 9 Sep 93 p A4

[Unattributed article: "Opposition Disinforms Citizenry To Induce It To Vote Against New Constitution"]

[Text] The chairman of the Labor Commission, Ricardo Marcenaro Frers (New Majority-Change 90), asserted that neither job security nor free eduation has been stricken from the new constitution, describing such claims as "hot air and political maneuvering by the opposition to win supporters in its campaign against the constitution."

"What they want is to induce people to vote against the new constitution, to terrorize them with lies and falsehoods," he stated flatly.

Marcenaro said that as far as job security is concerned, the minority bloc in fact uses the same conceptual language in its alternative draft constitution.

He explained that Article 30 of the opposition's draft, for example, states that "the law grants workers suitable protection against arbitrary dismissal," exactly the same words that were proposed by the congressional majority and that were incorporated into the new constitution.

"In other words, the opposition uses the same language and yet claims that we have eliminated job security," he remarked.

He added that the force of this provision of the constitution is fully guaranteed and that the terminology of the International Labor Organization (ILO), not the expression "job security," was used.

Marcenaro indicated that a worker can be fired only for just cause, as currently provided for in Legislative Decree 728 in reference to the Employment Promotion Law.

"This decree," he indicated, "sets forth the various grounds for dismissal. Moreover, we must realize that in Peru only 4 percent of the work force has job security, while 96 percent are unemployed or underemployed."

Free Education

He said that another of the lies that the opposition is telling has to do with free education, which has not been taken out of the new constitution either. It merely provides that those who can really afford a college education ought to pay for it so that lower-income people can be helped.

"Students who demonstrate financial need will definitely not pay," he indicated.

He added that in order to discharge this task state-run universities would set up systems for evaluating the financial situation of students, "and if, for example, 99 percent cannot afford it, then that 99 percent will receive free instruction," he asserted.

* Joy Way: Yes for Stability

93SM0448D Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 10 Sep 93 p 8

[Article by Ines Flores: "Abimael Guzman Would Win With a No Vote"]

[Text] Pisco, 9 Sep—If the no vote were to win, it would be a victory for Abimael Guzman, who has said from his cell that he would triumph under the Constitution of 1979, Congressman Victor Joy Way commented in this city.

He indicated that the Peruvian people would vote yes because they do not want to return to the previous situation, in which we lived amid a climate of insecurity.

He asserted that Guzman's capture created a climate of security in the country that has brought a significant rise in investment to create jobs.

Joy Way announced that he too would travel to the provinces to campaign for a yes vote, saying that "we are voting for the principles and major concepts of the nation."

He said that in his congressional efforts he would give himself some time to join the campaign undertaken by President Alberto Fujimori.

Joy Way indicated that he does believe that the no vote that opposition political groups are calling for can win, "because it would mean returning to the previous situation."

He recalled that the constitution had been approved by 79 percent of the members of the CCD [Democractic Constituent Congress] and that this constitution and the alternative drafts disagree on just two items: the single chamber and immediate reelection.

The second vice president of the CCD asserted that a no vote would also mean turning back the clock on the pacification process, as a result of which he does not think that the Peruvian people will support this position.

He revealed that he learned from reliable sources that Abimael Guzman had indicated from his jail cell that he would achieve victory with the constitution of 1979.

Does this mean that Guzman has hopes that the people will reject the new constitution, which severely punishes terrorism? LA REPUBLICA asked.

Joy Way merely indicated that this is up to the mass media and the Peruvian people. He did comment, however, that if the new constitution were to be rejected, it would mean a return to the days of insecurity that the country experienced during 12 years of terrorism.

Referring to the death penalty, he added that an international accord could be reached to prevent the termination of the San Jose, Costa Rica treaty.

He proposed that in this case terrorism be described as genocide.

The slaughter of the Ashinka settlers and natives last August in Satipo could be used as an example, he indicated.

At another point in his remarks he asserted that the climate in the country is one of security and that it began with the capture of Abimael Guzman and the resolution of human rights problems.

He stated that disappearance of one professor and nine students from La Cantuta University took place last year and that no reports of disappearances have been made this year.

He reported that thanks to this trend foreign investment in the privatization of government-run enterprises has exceeded $719 million.

Moreover, one third of the capital that fled the country in recent years has returned, some $2 billion.

* Community Leaders Roundtable on Constitution

93SM0452A Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 6 Sep 93 pp 5-7

[Roundtable discussion with Gonzalo Garland, Jose Gabriel del Castillo, and Wagner Torres; place and date not given; first three paragraphs are EL PERUANO introduction: "Laying the Groundwork for the Future"]

[Text] The Constituent Congress has approved the final text of the proposed Constitution which in coming months the Peruvian people will either ratify or not in a referendum. There is consensus among social, political, and economic leaders that the Constitution, as it is the supreme Law of Laws, must be clear and precise, and include the structural reforms being implemented.

Therefore, it is not unwarranted for this document to contain rights such as the popular initiative and referendum; an economic system which provides full security to investors; and the definition of a state based upon the requirements of modernization, as called for in the international community.

So that EL PERUANO may continue to promote the clarification and greater understanding of issues, we invited several people to take part in a roundtable discussion of the general scope of this constitutional draft. Following are the views of Gonzalo Garland, former president of Adex [Exporters Association]; Jose Gabrel del Castillo, jurist; and Wagner Torres, director of several business associations.

[EL PERUANO] Can the Constitution serve as a framework to deal with real situations arising in today's Peru?

[Garland] During the 1980's the most profound changes in the century took place: the fall of the Berlin Wall, which took ideology out of the political debate and ended the bipolar system of two major powers; and historic growth indices were surpassed. These international repercussions also affected what are called the peripheral nations, the developing countries. These factors, *per se*, need to be considered in all nations' legal systems.

In 1979, when the Constitution that is still in force was written, good work was certainly done, but it was designed for a radically different situation, in which commitments were driven by polarized ideologies. Today we have gone beyond that stage and we are in what is called "World War III," which is international competition to win foreign markets and sell our national products. In these new circumstances countries need to adapt appropriately to make this effort, and only those

that are highly modernized and ready for the new circumstances will be able to survive; the others are going to succumb. This analysis means that we have to revise the Peruvian legal system and adapt it to new rules; and when I say the legal system, I do not mean just the Constitution, but all the other laws and regulations that need to be amended so Peru may enter this modern age and competition.

[EL PERUANO] Are modernity and competition necessarily linked to democracy?

[Garland] We can say that they tend toward an authentic democratic system, but international competition does not necessarily require a democratic base. That is shown by the People's Republic of China and other countries that have nondemocratic systems or systems that only appear to be democratic, but which have been able to compete internationally. It is necessary for this democratic stage to be reached gradually, for in the long run we all have to achieve a situation of authentic democracy, and we must emphasize that this democracy must be more direct.

[EL PERUANO] But you really feel that the constitutional draft takes into consideration the changes in Peru since the 1980's?

[Garland] I think an effort is really being made to make this a modern, flexible, and efficient Constitution in harmony with the conditions of this international competition which is coming to us. We need to make our production system more flexible, to attract foreign investment, and provide security to investors, for the magnitude of the foreign investment going to the developing countries will enable them to grow more rapidly.

I would say that while not all the necessary changes have been introduced, a fair number have been adopted. But I still believe we need to consider other changes so that Peru will have the Constitution it needs. We need to try to get the best possible document, and we should all contribute to this process.

[EL PERUANO] Is the constitutional framework which the present bill proposes going to contribute effectively to solving the existing legislative disorder?

[Castillo] I also think the legal system needs to be modernized. We have the experience of our former Constitution which, 10 years after it was promulgated, had not been followed up with enactment of the laws which the Constitution itself said were needed. That revealed legislative inertia. Now we find that one of the duties listed in the former Constitution which all must respect, to obey and defend the Constitution and the legal system of the nation, is paradoxically repeated in the new text, perhaps for didactic purposes to differentiate the Constitution from other laws, but the support of our legal order is the Constitution.

The existing legislative chaos does not date from this government or from the military government; this disorder comes from the very start of the republic. Although it needs to be overcome systematically, by including some concepts that are being publicly debated, this Constitution does incorporate the very profound and radical changes that have taken place in Peruvian society.

But until appropriate steps are taken to correct the nation's legal system, so there will be legal security, we are not going to be able to progress; so long as we continue to have the system of "repeal everything you oppose." Moreover, the Constitution has not provided for minimum legal education, constitutional education. How could that be done? I think a technical, autonomous institution should be established, determined by law, whose function will be to ensure unity, consistency, and dissemination of legal information, and to provide the necessary support to keep legislation up to date. I believe that without this we are not going to be able to advance, as legislative obstacles are very strong. For example, arbitration should have a constitutional classification, like military law. And the laws need to be classified; we have 26,235 laws and regulations now, plus millions of legal provisions. How many of them are really current? No one knows.

[EL PERUANO] Let us talk about the Constitution's importance in terms of the decision to promote growth in Peru....

[Garland] I think that is obvious; the Constitution is the basis for the legal system and the clearer the Constitution is, the more explicit and informative in terms of investment, the better the investor will know the possibilities he will have to protect his investment in the future, the security for his investment. Remember that most investments today are long term investments, for 20, 30, or 40 years, so investors do not look just at a country's present government, but at its legal system, and how that country respects its legal system.

The important thing here is the need to maintain the system being created now, and so we need to call upon all parties to obtain the best legal framework.

[EL PERUANO] Does this Constitution provide clear and stable rules for promoting investment?

[Garland] Despite some statements made by the private sector at meetings of the Constitutional Commission, I would say it does. The suggestions of representative institutions of the private sector were taken into consideration. I think most of them were incorporated, though some were left aside, like arbitration. This is a very practical system used in most countries, and it works very quickly, eliminating years of litigation. And both in business and industry, speed is very important, and ending an impasse quickly is even more important than winning. It is better to know if a decision is going to be made against you today, and not four years later.

After the Constitution comes another very important stage, coordinating and creating consistency between the fundamental document and the laws that are enacted, and then the simplification of the system. The more progress we make in simplification, the more that will accelerate the production process.

[EL PERUANO] Is there any major omission in the article on individual rights?

[Castillo] The article covers a number of needs that were included. We do find something new, in the right of everyone to seek from public agencies whatever information he needs without stating a cause, within a legal time limit, by paying the cost of the request. The only thing excluded from this freedom of information is information affecting a person's privacy or information that is expressly excluded by law.

[EL PERUANO] Is this *habeas data*?

[Castillo] It supposedly does not say that directly, but based on the arrangements we have in the last part, it is.

In the second place, it speaks very explicitly about banking secrecy and tax reticence; it says that banking secrecy and tax reticence may only be removed at the request of the courts, the Office of the Attorney General, or of a parliamentary committee. But one stipulation is added: such a request must be related to a case under investigation.

We also find the right to removal and recall of government officials, to legislative initiative, which is basic for this reordering of the system, and referendum. There is also a mention of professional secrecy and some new rights are included in the constitutional text as fundamental rights, such as the right to peace, to tranquility, to possession, to rest, and to enjoyment of the environment. There is also a right to legitimate self-defense.

[EL PERUANO] What should be done to ensure the continuity of this new Constitution, so it will last for many years, and not just for a year or less?

[Torres] In the two previous Constitutions, we in the business community observed that they were legal documents written in a very inaccessible manner, so much so that the vast majority of the Peruvian people did not understand them, did not know how to preserve and protect them. As a consequence, the Peruvian state was detached from the true nation. The current constitutional draft, I think, in essence preserves what the Peruvian people want; the problem is how to make the vast majority understand clearly what is written in the Constitution in fairly difficult language, to make it part of their lives. That is what makes a Constitution last: the environment in which all political, social, economic, and cultural activities take place. Interpreting the business community's wishes, we may say that it wants its capacity to create and generate wealth to be respected; its right to work, to adapt, to progress, to equal treatment under the law to be respected. If those fundamental principles are respected, the business community will expect to live in a climate of justice and fairness in an orderly society.

[Garland] I agree with what has just been said. In terms of production, some fundamental points need to be and are recognized; everything related to free determination through private initiative, that everyone may create his own workplace, his capacity for development; that the state should not intervene except in times of calamity or for reasons of national security, and that the state's activity should supplement business activity, so we will not have a state that will compete in activities like film production, banking, and others that the private sector does better.

There should also be regulatory neutrality concerning the right to information; every person has the same right to information as the government official who administers it, and that official has an obligation to make that information available. That must apply both to Peruvians and to foreign nationals. No impediments should be placed on foreign trade, except to protect human health, and in cases involving morals and danger.

So our concept of the state is really a state as promoter rather than a state as producer: a state acting as promoter to stimulate an active private sector. That is the symbiosis operating in countries which have been successful, where there has been a philosophy of national mobilization for exports. At this time we are not making use of all our assets to compete in foreign trade. And two other factors must also be involved here: the media, which should intervene regularly in order to maintain this state-business community symbiosis; and academic research centers, which are now isolated from the nation's desires and needs.

[Castillo] To ensure the Constitution's continuity, it needs to contain basic, fundamental, generic, clear, and precise principles; specifics and details should not be included in the Constitution. That is one way to keep the Constitution from continually being amended.

In terms of the mechanisms this constitutional bill contains to make it last, I have just listed a series of conditions for its reform. There also needs to be a didactic preparation of laws; in legal obscurity we do not know what to do or what to undo. So clear and precise drafting of the laws is going to be very important. And something that we have forgotten; there is always a lot of talk about the publication of the law; the official publication EL PERUANO publishes 35,000 copies. I wonder; how does a businessman know what laws he has to obey? Does he go to his attorney, who tells him that this or that law amended another that was published yesterday, which he did not know about, or that it does not oppose the present law? The rules have to be clear, and that will help the citizens to understand them. There must also be constitutional and legal education so that the Constitution will have meaning in people's lives.

For a Modern and Competitive Economy

[EL PERUANO] What about the financial system?

[Garland] A major step is needed here; the financial sector must become a promotional and productive system of the nation, and there is no question that it must also be modernized so it will be able to compete nationally and internationally. The banks still have not gotten here, they are going to be the last to arrive. And when they do, the financial sector is going to start to feel very strong competition. If our financial sector is not ready, it will not be able to cope with this situation.

[Torres] The state's role has always been talked about and not understood. We often go to extremes; we want the state to engage only in promotion. I do not think that is the right approach. The state, in addition to acting as a promoter, must also be a guide and stabilizer at some moments, and shoulder its responsibilities in specific circumstances. The good thing about this Constitution is that it does not eliminate the possibility of the state conducting any activity required for national development.

Nor can the state abandon its role as a stabilizer of the national economy through diverse mechanisms and instruments that may have to be created at some time. The Constitution should leave these possibilities open; the state at some point may have to take the initiative.

[Castillo] I would like to start from something fundamental; this constitutional draft is described not only as a protector, but as a promoter, and not only of business. For the first time the first article introduces the phrase "to protect and promote the individual." The entire constitutional document is designed for that goal. In that context, the banks also have to promote and protect, from the financial viewpoint, all these constitutional points.

Uruguay

Foreign Minister Rejects Protectionism

PY0510150293 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Sergio Abreu demanded today the immediate end of protectionist practices, reiterating the need to rapidly and successfully conclude the Uruguay Round of GATT talks. Speaking to the UN General Assembly [UNGA], the minister emphasized the interdependence between development and political stability, adding that Uruguay believes regional integration is the best way to join the international community.

He voiced concern about the behavior of many countries which, while preaching the advantages of free trade and economic liberalism, close their markets to countries whose wellbeing depends on access to those markets. The minister said there is no room for double interpretation of the full expression of freedom and of the exercise of human rights, noting that trade freedom should not be restricted by the pressure exerted by sectors or nations.

Political freedom and trade freedom are the two sides of the coin, said Abreu, adding that the opening of markets between developed and underdeveloped countries should be considered an objective that will benefit everyone.

In his capacity as president of the ministerial committee for negotiations of the Uruguay Round of GATT talks, Abreu voiced concern about the difficulties of concluding such talks, noting that after seven years of negotiations, trends persist that obstruct this multilateral process.

Bilateral negotiations entail the possibility of reaching a global, balanced result taking into account all interests, especially the interest of developing countries, in keeping with GATT rules, he said, clearly alluding to the talks between the United States and the European Community.

Minister Abreu emphasized that Uruguay has met structural demands and has implemented commercial liberalization policies to modernize its productive sector, facilitate technological innovation, and increase productivity, seeking to more efficiently participate in world economy and trade. He said that this major adjustment effort by Uruguay, which has also been achieved by many other developing countries, was performed without any support from the international system, least of all from developed nations.

Based on this, Uruguay once again reiterates its strong rejection of protectionist policies which some highly industrialized countries continue to enforce, and which are incompatible with GATT rules and with the status-quo commitments agreed upon at the beginning of the Uruguay round of GATT talks.

[Begin Abreu recording] Uruguay once again reiterates its strong rejection of the protectionist policies that some highly industrialized countries continue to enforce. Such policies are clearly incompatible with GATT rules and with the status-quo commitments agreed upon at the beginning of the Uruguay round of GATT talks. Yet at the same time, they discourage those efforts that are being made within the framework of democracy that seek to strengthen institutions and promote social dialogue.

It is worrisome to see the conduct of many countries which, while preaching the advantages of free trade and economic liberalism, have closed their markets to countries whose wellbeing depends, to a considerable extent, on access to those markets. [end recording]

Venezuela

Students Set Bus Ablaze, Disrupt Traffic

PA0610010593 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0001 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Caracas, 5 Oct (EFE)—Today groups of hooded students set a bus on fire, causing traffic jams and disrupting traffic in downtown Caracas. The incident occurred near the Caracas Instituto Pedagogico. Authorities have yet to determine the exact motives behind the student protests.

Although some incidents were reported in Caracas last week, they were not as violent as a 23 September demonstration in which a university employee was killed. The initial protests were to demand increases in university budgets, while subsequent protests denounced police repression during the demonstration in which the university employee was killed.

Meanwhile, Rocio Zuloaga, chief of the Caracas educational zone, said that only 40 percent of the schools in metropolitan Caracas are open. Although the 1993-94 school year was officially scheduled to get under way on 4 October, most schools failed to open on that date because of administrative problems.

Zuloaga admitted that the situation concerning those schools, which remain closed, is causing a nationwide problem, but he did not specify what percentage of schools are operating according to the official calendar.

Military Command Discuss Persistent Coup Rumors

PA0510153293 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 2 Oct 93 p D-1

[Report by Jesus Eduardo Brando]

[Text] Members of the Military High Command met yesterday for approximately three hours at Fort Tiuna to discuss the latest reports and the progress made in the investigation into the persistent rumors of a coup d'etat.

Defense Minister Radames Munoz Leon saw the president early in the morning at the Presidency, where 50-mm machine guns have been posted. The arsenal was bolstered with ground-to-ground missiles.

Following orders from the defense minister, troops in combat gear doubled security along the main roads in and out of Caracas, around electrical service installations, telecommunication facilities, and La Mariposa Dam. These measures also included Miraflores Presidential Palace and the offices of other high-ranking officials.

A tour around the city revealed reinforced police and National Guard patrols posted at strategic places, such as downtown streets and avenues. Check points were set up in several places to verify citizen and vehicle documents. Brush had been cleared away at the elevated sections at Fort Tiuna, and there were more guards on duty. There were also several personnel trucks parked behind the seating structures along the Paseo de los Proceres.

The government reaffirmed that it is closing in on the source of the rumors, according to statements from official sources, who added that Interior Minister Carlos Delgado Chapellin keeps President Ramon J. Velazquez well briefed on the matter. Late in the afternoon there was still no information regarding riots, arrests, or other such incidents related to the state of alert issued by authorities.

The Directorate of Military Intelligence [DIM] forwarded a report to the high civilian authorities stating that the decision reached by the government, the Armed Forces, and the Supreme Electoral Council to reject the legislative nomination of Colonel Francisco Javier Arias Cardenas, a member of the Radical Cause Party and one of the soldiers implicated in the 4 February coup attempt, could radicalize a section of that political party. The military intelligence report says this section is headed by Deputy Pablo Medina. According to the report, the group is tasked with leading civilian operations and has ties with the MBR-200 [Bolivarian 200 Revolutionary Movement] rebel military group.

DIM states that several of the group's members have been to Cuba to receive guerrilla warfare training. They have taken control of several travel agencies that organize tours to the island and several companies that distribute medicines manufactured in Cuba throughout Venezuela. This reportedly will provide them with an outstanding flow of information.

According to the same report, university watchman Sergio Rodriguez, killed last week during a student demonstration, could have been linked to the movement. As will be recalled, the Defense Ministry had stated that it is analyzing background information on Rodriguez and that he could have been a member of the Tupamaro Group operating in the 23 January community. The group has also been linked to a bank robber arrested a few days ago.

The document discloses that there is information indicating that the group could be financed by Colombian narcoguerrilla organizations. These organizations could have provided the funds a Venezuelan parliamentarian gave General Francisco Efrain Viscontti Osorio, one of the leaders of the 27 November rebellion who decided to exile himself in Peru with 53 fellow officers, junior officers, and air technicians.

The Bolivarian Forces

During the past few days, a clandestine document has been circulating allegedly attributed to the Bolivarian Liberation Forces [FBL] and warning of the ongoing conspiracy by a group of the so-called "setting" [entorno], which consists of two retired generals, several businessmen, and political leaders.

According to the document, extreme right sectors could be planning an attempt against a high-ranking AD [Democratic Action] leader, as well as Commander Hugo Chavez Frias. It is said that the objective behind these attempts would be to propitiate the right setting for further coup actions. As a result, the FBL had decided to remain on alert, because, according to their information, there would be efforts to link them to the coup attempts even though they had declared a truce since 20 May when they executed an attack against former Social Security President Pedro Cesar Izquiel.

Presidential Candidate Alvarez Interviewed

PA0210231393 Caracas Radio Caracas Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Sep 93

[Interview with Oswaldo Alvarez Paz, Copei presidential candidate, by Marcel Granier in Caracas; from the "Front Page" program—live]

[Text] [Granier] Good evening, dear listeners. As I announced last week, tonight our guest is Oswaldo Alvarez Paz, presidential candidate of the Social Christian Party, Copei.

We could use the topic of the national agreement to begin our talk. President Velasquez has noted the country's serious situation, the prevailing instability, the difficult economic situation, the considerably deteriorated economy in 1992 and 1993, and weak oil prices ahead in 1994 and 1995. The picture appears quite complicated for whoever wins the Presidency.

Thus far the polls do not define a clear majority for any of the candidates. Parliament gives the impression that it will be quite divided. What do you propose regarding the national agreement and how do you view the prospects for Venezuela?

[Alvarez] I have come out in favor of the national agreement. I think it is indispensable to set the groundwork for an agreement that will permit us to formulate policies that will allow us to overcome the country's obviously very difficult situation. The impoverishment process, as you said, has been quite marked, especially during the past decade. Since 1983 to date, what cost 100 bolivares for food in 1983 now costs $1,500.

[Granier] Twenty-five times as much?

[Alvarez] Yes. Food has increased 25 times what it used to be while the minimum wage has increased 10 times. A professional's minimum wage in 1983 was a little over $1,000 monthly. At this moment it is not even $200. That is for professionals, for the middle income bracket, who perhaps may have the possibility of doing more things than those who are not in that bracket.

[Granier] It draws my attention that in the international organizations, when the crisis of the debt emerged and during 1980 when there was a lot of insistence on reestablishing what they termed the macroeconomic balance, national accounts, and all of those terms economists use to confuse us, things have changed somewhat. Nowadays, I don't know if it is a result of the crisis that is being experienced by the countries of the Third World in Latin America. Even in developed countries, there is greater concern about the topic of poverty, the problem of alienation. How do you view that problem?

[Alvarez] That is correct. I think it is the greatest concern now, even in developed countries. It shows how explosive the people's increasing poverty can be in countries such as ours. All of this is a result of the unchecked hyperinflation process in which we have been mired for some time. We must quickly control and reduce it as much as possible. That cannot be accomplished by a single man. It cannot be achieved by a president, without Congress' support and backing, and even much more important than Congress' support, the support of the people and the rest of the nation's political forces. We must reach certain fundamental pacts, which Dr. Velasquez is calling for now. This is not so that he can see the fruits of that agreement but so that the next government, whoever is elected president, can walk firmly and overcome these problems.

[Granier] There is a lot of concern that this pact will face the same fate as the pact of reforms that was signed in the elliptical room but was not fulfilled.

[Alvarez] There was a lot of clowning around with the pact on reforms. We are still waiting for it to be implemented. The majority of those who have signed that pact have not fulfilled the agreements that were signed. I sense that the prevailing situation in Venezuela demands that we find ways, without any ideological ties, to offer practical, concrete, and immediate solutions to the nation's very specific and primary problems. It demands that we get together and accomplish things. On the one hand, it involves the seriousness of the president, of whomever is elected; on the other hand it involves his power of conviction and disposition not to capitulate.

I believe that the worse thing that can happen to Venezuela is if the fundamental political leaders remain enclosed within themselves, cherishing our own exclusive formulas, as if each one of us was the belly button of the country or the belly button of the world. This would further divide Venezuela, which is already broken up, so to speak, and which needs, in my opinion, a kind of national agreement that will permit us basically to reach an understanding of the nation's motor forces, to permit us to come out ahead.

[Granier] One of the electoral campaigns' fundamental problems is the apparent need for the strategists of each campaign to resort to dirty war in an attempt to discredit the opponent. In your case, an effort has been made to link you to the economic package implemented by President Perez. What do you feel when you are labeled a package peddler?

[Alvarez] Deep inside, I want to laugh because I know this is, as you said, a political trick to try to link me to

Perez, who has seen better days and is out of the government, and portray me as someone ready to continue Perez' policies for five more years. Funny, because up to 25 April I used to be linked to another presidential candidate, not Perez. This is the origin of these attacks. But there is a serious duplicity, Marcel. People will not accept lies and if they found out plans for lies in the future, the reactions could be very violent, even more so than in the past, and the consequences for Venezuela could be dramatic.

I am labeled a package peddler because for a number of years, and not since the beginning of Perez' government, I have favored a free and open economy, the external orientation of our economic resources, and a number of slogans identified with what some describe as market economy and others call social market economy. They are closely interrelated. Well, what Perez did, and his economic process, has little to do with this economic scheme and model in which I believe.

Those who accuse me of package peddling here and abroad, however, use a language that too closely resembles the one that Perez uses in his macroeconomic adjustment program. For instance, I have here a fax that arrived from New York yesterday. In a meeting with Wall Street bankers and lawyers, Asdrubal Batista, who heads the team handling Rafael Caldera's government program, says Caldera will base his economic program on opening to foreign investment in Pedevesa [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc.], a move that will give many more opportunities to local and foreign investors. He also says that the debt refinancing agreements must be respected and that an effort will be made to reduce the country's fiscal deficit through taxes. This is written here in the fax. It also says here: Our policy should be one of greater opening for investors. Venezuela will not be able to resist the power of the reforms imposed by free market economies. I can leave this paper with you so you can study it fully later.

This is very significant because one thing is said in Venezuela and an entirely different one is said elsewhere which is oriented in the same direction as Perez' and reveals realities we must discuss.

Now, because we do not know what it is all about or what the presidential candidates really think, the time has come to debate this topic openly. I mean the national agreement, in particular economy. I have seen a statement that regards as high treason even reaching an agreement supposedly to continue Perez' economic policies. All right, let us debate this openly, in front of the people. I think the people are entitled to know what we candidates think about the fundamental subjects. Let us see what the solutions, responses, points of agreement, and points of disagreement are. If what Batista says is true, I do not see why an agreement cannot be reached, even one on a short-term basis, to support President Velasquez and the coming president so they can expand on an already defined policy and on which several of us can agree. I am taking the opportunlity to invite the other presidential hopefuls to openly debate several subjects, either together or individually. I propose that the first subject should be economy as a function of a national agreement.

[Granier] I think this is very interesting and important for the people. It is true that, as you say, these kinds of remarks create a lot of confusion, particularly coming from Batista, who a few days ago fiercely opposed the Cristobal Colon project, which deals with bringing foreign investment to the country and opening the economy.

[Alvarez] The candidates should present their viewpoints on this matter very clearly. This is Venezuela's first signal to the investment world in an extremely important area; that is, hydrocarbons, although the project deals with gas in this particular instance. This will determine the international financial world's impression of Venezuela.

On Sunday, I was deeply impressed when the interviewee spoke about the Cristobal Colon project. He said he did not oppose the project because the people in Sucre State and the country's western area are excited about it. He did say, however, that he has serious reservations regarding sovereignty, the Constitution, and many other things. In sum, he has a negative view of the project. We do not know how long we will have to withstand this duplicity in so difficult a stage in Venezuela's life. If someone supports this project, it should not be because the people want it but because it is good for the country. If someone disagrees because of legal reservations regarding the extent to which it could harm the country's sovereignty, it is the leader's duty to oppose it, not to play dumb to avoid paying the electoral price that could be exacted by his opposition.

Here is another very serious and important point that should be included in the debate: What are we going to do with the hydrocarbons and Venezuela's oil policy over the next few years? In what frame of mind will we handle it? Should we have an opening or not? Are strategic associations good or bad? How long should Pedevesa remain entirely in the Venezuelan Government's hands? To what extent should citizens or foreigners be allowed to buy stock in and partially or totally control our basic industry? I hereby reiterate my invitation for a debate.

[Granier] As I said before, you can rely on Radio Caracas for the debates, no matter how you choose to conduct them, either jointly or individually. The candidates can decide on that. It would be a good example for the country.

[Alvarez] A number of institutions, such as Fedecamaras [Venezuelan Federation of Associations and Chambers of Commerce and Industry] and the Caracas Chamber of Commerce, which is commemorating its 100th anniversary, and the Maracaibo Press Club have invited all the candidates, ostensibly to hold a debate. Other organizations include Pro Venezuela, some universities, and

some professional associations. It would be a very good idea to wrap all the invitations into a single great presentation sponsored by all sectors that are part of the country's active forces. All the candidates would participate in one or more debates on these subjects. This is a strange campaign. It is the only campaign in the history of democracy that has not included a government candidate or party.

[Granier] The government is not meddling and not buying [words indistinct].

[Alvarez] And where there is no opposition party or candidate. This makes for a very interesting situation, a novelty. Even if only in the final stage, we will have to hold a scheduled debate on future offers to see how we will lift up the country. So let's hold the debate. The subjects are already here.

[Granier] On behalf of Radio Caracas, I reaffirm our willingness to host the debate. You can freely select the moderators and the subjects.

[Alvarez] I would suggest you as moderator right away.

[Granier] With pleasure. Of course, this invitation is being extended to the other candidates, too.

During the time prior to your candidacy, during those three short months, you passed from not being a candidate to being a candidate supported by a broad majority. You were elected by all of those who voted as members of Copei, but there also were many who were not Copei members who voted for you.

A number of things have occurred that are worth mentioning. At first, you appeared as a Copei candidate who opposed the line of Copei clique leaders. The independent sectors and, I suppose, those sectors that sympathize with Copei were pleased to get on the band wagon and say no to the clique leaders by accepting a marvelous invitation. Copei gave the nation a great opportunity to participate in its elections. Once you won candidacy you became the official Copei candidate. How do you reconcile what you previously said with the current situation in which you find yourself now, and how is Copei reacting?

[Alvarez] This is very interesting because recently it has caused a great deal of speculation. I would like to say this: I have been critical of the style of Venezuelan political campaigns during the past several elections. I had very serious and severe confrontations with the party leadership. This went on practically throughout all of the past decade, except for the four years when I was governor of Zulia, when those problems were temporarily put on the back burner. Nevertheless, when I initiated my campaign to become Copei's presidential candidate, it was not to resign from Copei; it was not to leave Copei; it was not to annihilate Copei; and it was not to destroy Copei. It was simply to strengthen Copei's leadership and try to achieve a change of course in the administrative style that had prevailed up until that time. This is not easy because the party chose its candidate with the massive participation of independent members. The leadership, however, was not renewed.

More than a change of name, which is not possible from a legal point of view, nor convenient during an election year with the elections on the doorstep, what we have tried to do is to reach an understanding among us, a sincere understanding between the party leadership and its candidate, who naturally becomes the new leader of the organization. In my opinion, we have achieved this to a very large degree.

The independents, who voted for me, did so knowing that they were choosing the presidential candidate of Copei, of course. They also made my candidacy a point of contact in a political nation, or, perhaps, I should say a party-oriented nation. In this case I am speaking about the Copei party, which has agreed to renew itself and agreed with the results of an election that was contrary to its leadership. The result is a national representation of many millions of independents who are also looking for a cause in which they can have faith, a cause in which they can believe. This has been the spirit of this process. Of course, along with this there was the difficulty of, let us label this nicely, Caldera's dissidence, which also contributed to create confusion in the initial phase.

I can tell you this: Not only am I currently acting as the party's leader, but I have the support of Copei's sympathizers. You can rest assured that I am not going to say what former President Romulo Betacourt said, namely, that an AD [Democratic Action] supporter is an AD supporter for life, as you well recall. Nevertheless, I can say that, no matter what, Copei's sympathizers are Copei at heart, and they will vote green in December.

[Granier] How do you think Copei followers interpret this situation. It is difficult for a Copei supporter, especially for someone who has been active in Copei, to have you as two major candidates since two candidates closely linked to Copei come either first and second, depending on the survey. How do you think the people will react?

[Alvarez] I think people will vote for the person they think is most likely to win. Copei supporters will vote for their Copei candidate, who happens to be me. Independents and many people from other political organizations who do not feel their candidates have a real chance will vote for whomever they think is most qualified to govern Venezuela. I think this last point is very important because I sincerely believe that Caldera came out the loser because of the company he chose to keep. The convergence turned into a big problem when the time came to select candidates for major posts. That situation, which was very contrived, is collapsing in certain parts of the country. The MAS [Movement Toward Socialism], MEP [People's Electoral Movement], and Communist Party of Venezuela people were not even able to reach a basic agreement to submit joint candidates for the congressional elections. That is why the ripple effect of that

candidacy has weakened a lot recently. It will be very difficult for them to have a unified or single message because big differences exist there. I think that is the main reason why their candidate cannot produce anything other than a negative message. When one is campaigning, it is very easy to preach against everything, to be against everything, absolutely everything that is proposed, said, or discussed without contributing a single new or positive idea that identifies a different course for the nation.

[Granier] What positive ideas are you proposing that point to that positive path?

[Alvarez] An overall reform of the state: decentralize the administration; build a federal system; give states as much autonomy as possible; emphasize the role of the municipality in everyday affairs and strengthening local governments; redistribute presidential power; modify the interventionist state in accordance with the 1961 Constitution to allow greater participation with the state fulfilling a different role; build an economy that is based mainly on freedom of work and solidarity; and change the bases that sustain life in Venezuela. We are making very definite proposals to try and control inflation, a basic cause of poverty in Venezuela, and to reduce the fiscal deficit. We have definite policies and plans to modify the tax system. I am not just referring to the value-added tax [VAT], because that is something current and is due to very definite interests. I am referring to an outlook for the future. We have plans and programs to seek private investments, both at home and abroad, that will allow us to start a process of economic growth without inflation and generate the jobs the country needs. At a recent oil forum attended by most of the oil industry, we presented the basis for a national agreement in oil matters. Yesterday we presented something to which I assign great importance; that is, our environmental program. We want to make development compatible with the country's ecological and environmental conservation. We have definite plans for sports, physical education, and recreation. We are offering Venezuela paths that are above the attitude of total destruction; a complete diagnosis of well known woes which, regardless of the number of times we mention them, we ourselves will never suffer the same way in which the people in the streets suffer them, or housewives, whose income is never enough to cover expenses, or drivers who need spare parts and cannot do anything more to get the car to run.

To sum things up, we have programs, ideas, an outlook for the future, and working teams of over 450 people that include professionals, technicians, managers, and people from various sectors, all working to prepare my government program. Marcel, we have people to win, and we have people to rule.

[Granier] Among the various concerns the people have every day....[pauses] Some people feel we are going to experience great difficulties in the next few years both as a result of all the mistakes that were made and the international situation. These people think more about the country they are going to give their sons and grandsons. We have noted with emotion how many people are still willing to make sacrifices to give their children a better future. You may have made that observation a few times. Do you have a specific program that can respond to those concerns? The people are willing to make sacrifices, but they want a better country for their children.

[Alvarez] You have hit the nail on the head. I think it is every citizen's dream to complete his vital cycle by having a family and creating more opportunities for his children than he enjoyed. When each generation develops more than the previous one, that determines a nation's progress. I am sure our generation had more opportunities in life than our parents enjoyed. They worked hard, made sacrifices, and invested everything in us so we could do what we have done in life.

I have the impression, however, that if the country continues on this path, the heads of rich and poor families alike share this concern, our sons and grandsons will have fewer opportunities. That means the country is bogged down and will eventually be regressing.

What kind of country do we want to build? We need a country where there is security for everyone. Note that the word security is an integral concept. First, a person must know his life and property will be protected. Second, he must know that if he works a little and makes a little effort, the country offers him the possibility to educate his children, to care for them when they are sick, to feed them, clothe them, and provide shelter for the family, and finally, to prepare his children for life so they can manage by themselves. The citizen who achieves that dream has accomplished his mission in life and made his contribution to national development. I want to build a country where this is possible.

I invite all sectors to work in these directions: education, health, housing, and security of persons and property. This involves a wide variety of things, of course. We have to reorganize the state, draft policies, and change many administrative procedures that drown effort and good intentions. We must prepare for a real democratic revolution; a peaceful one of course, but not a weak one. We need a very firm revolution so we can again have a democratic government that enjoys legitimacy and authority. We need an ethical radicalism to face all the things that require action. The government should serve as a model and an example for the nation. We should be able to oppose our government, because that is the essence of democracy. But no one should have doubts about its good faith or the integrity of its leaders, who with their example can serve as points of reference for the new generations. I do not think it is very difficult. All we need is courage and the ability to garner support so we, as leaders, can contribute to the nation's efforts.

[Granier] Do you not think there is an extensive messianic feeling of hope in country terms, especially in terms

of this complicated and difficult situation to which no one has a complete answer or a perfect solution to the problems? There are many people who tend to fall back on messiahs; people who are willing to bet everything on this or that candidate because he is the one who will resolve all of our problems. This is Venezuela's history. There has been a great deal of messianism in our history.

[Alvarez] And this is why Venezuela finds itself in this situation. The last experience... [coughs] Forgive my cough, but the campaign is very demanding, and my hoarseness is not getting any better.

Our last experience was Carlos Andres Perez, and we all know how that ended. I believe this stage of Venezuela's history has come to an end. I believe the people are a lot more aware these days, a lot more mature. There is a lot more awareness that no one will do our job for us, that the government's mission is to organize conditions in a way that allows each person to have the tools to free himself, and that the government will give support and backing when needed or when in difficulty, but not as a substitute for the person's individual work.

[Granier] Why should people believe what you say?

[Alvarez] I do not have an answer. I suppose my track record is good enough evidence. I am asking for an opportunity by virtue of the modest records I can present to the country. I believe I have a rather productive parliamentary career from the political and legislative point of view. I believe my legislative career has been beneficial to the country, as well as my government work in a very difficult and complicated state, naturally, this is for all to see and, for obvious reasons, is being discussed very much right now, and on three occasions I have earned the confidence of the State of Zulia. In 1989, I was elected with only 38 percent of the votes; in 1992 I was reelected with 65 percent of the votes; and on 25 April of this year, to my surprise I received 84 percent of the votes and more votes than what I received when I was running for state governorship. This was practically a mandate from the people for me to struggle for the presidency of the Republic.

This is the work I have accomplished amid enormous limitations experienced during this period of Venezuelan life. These accomplishments came without my having total command over problems, and practically being nothing more than a manager of chaos at the national government level, where power is still too concentrated. I achieved things amid tremendous adversity and by striving, striving, and striving.

I believe that I am in a good position to promote the process. Among other things, Marcel, because I have a lot of faith in the 22 Venezuelan governors and their approximately 280 inhabitants. [sentence as heard] They know they will have an ally in me. They know I am going to be a president of the governor and mayors, that we will share the exercise of power, that I will strengthen their decisionmaking capacity very much, and that I will increase their resources from the central government to allow them to manage as close to the communities as possible. This is the way we will increase the system's capacity to respond to the people's demands. The system has to be legitimized by its usefulness, by the way it positively responds to the demands presented by real flesh-and-blood people.

[Granier] How is the entire decentralization process going to be financed?

[Alvarez] Well, it is not going to be easy. How is always the most important question. First, I believe Venezuela has resources but that they have been managed in a very disorderly fashion. We have lost a great deal because control over expenditures has been awful. We will have to strive to improve this area.

The modernization or renovation of the entire Venezuelan tax system would, without a doubt, contribute to new and more advantageous sources of revenue. The possibility that resources be managed and controlled by local governments is feasible if the president of the Republic and the national institutions are willing to do this.

If we manage to control inflation and stabilize the country, we will generate a climate of great trust. We started to see this when I won the candidacy on 25 April. Unfortunately, this climate was later tarnished with the problems that arose between Perez and the Congress, and, along with the change of government, the people's confidence again deteriorated.

We are going to generate such a climate of trust that investors will start showing up; that is local and foreign investors. They will find a nation that offers them multiple opportunities to engage in business on our territory. These opportunities can generate profits, jobs, and can implement a process of sustained, stable economic growth that Venezuela had for a long time.

[Granier] In the past few years, the suspicion has grown that drug trafficking gains greater influence in the nation as time goes on. It has been said that as a consequence of the pressures and the persecutions in Colombia, many [drug traffickers] have escaped to Venezuela due to the financial freedom that exists here. A great deal of real estate has been purchased here and large amounts of money have been laundered. How important do you think the drug-trafficking problem is?

[Alvarez] In my opinion, it is a very serious problem. I think currently it is one of the most serious threats to Venezuelan society. I have devoted many years of my life working on this problem. In February 1984, I presented the first debate of that constitutional session in Congress on drug trafficking, when this issue still was not very popular, just on the information we had received on some large cocaine seizures in Venezuela. That was in 1983 when the political campaign took off. There we set out in all its magnitude the drama and the possible future deviation of drug trafficking in Venezuela, should Colombia succeed in its battle. This illegal activity would

be carried out through money laundering and by using our territory as a clearing house and as a spring board to the Untied States and Europe.

It fell on me to chair the special commission that coordinated the writing of all legislation dealing with drugs and the struggle against the drug trafficking that exists in Venezuela. I was a member of the Andean Counternarcotics Commission, located in Santa Fe de Bogota, for approximately five years. Now in Zulia Department, for obvious reasons, we have had to confront this problem. We have approximately 970 km of border with Colombia and a geographic position that makes us, should I say attractive, for these activities. I can say that this is a very serious problem.

I can also say that the worst thing that can be done to combat drug trafficking is to mishandle the struggle through misinformation or through outlandish statements in search of publicity. The exaggerated publicity of the struggle against drug trafficking makes the drug traffickers very happy because this misinforms and confuses; this is one of their goals. This struggle has to be very discreet, very silent, and very firm. I have reached the following conclusion: No Latin American country, not even the United States, can be successful in fighting drug trafficking on its own. Drug trafficking is an international enterprise that has various facets, uses as many or more resources than the world oil industry, and has an operational capacity greater than that of each country that has to fight it on its own territory.

I have been suggesting that we must create an international drug interdiction organization to counter the international drug-trafficking organization. This international drug interdiction organization, which does not exist yet, must be created on very clear criteria. These criteria include establishing a common legal framework and police infrastructure to carry out preventive and repressive actions in those countries of this continent that are willing to join this international body. We should also try to unify the resources and guidance used by this organization under one authority, otherwise the drug traffickers will defeat our countries, one by one, and those that want to get out, will have to pay the high cost in bloodshed and violence as Colombia has had to pay.

I am not saying that Colombians are not winning their war, but I do not want Venezuela to pay the price Colombians are paying, nearly 1,000 dead a year over the span of a decade. This is too high a price and we must learn from other people's mistakes. Therefore, this is our stand. At one point we hired with UN funds a group of lawyers to analyze the possibility of creating a common legal framework and police infrastructure in the Andean countries. The studies were carried out, but as it often happens, nothing was done after the results were turned in.

[Granier] That is part of the problem. I agree with you that excessive publicity of what is going on could be harmful in some cases, but silence is worse. During the government of President Herrera Campins, an extraordinary job was done by Chief Constable (Arpas Vango) in which very powerful groups of drug traffickers operating in Venezuela were identified. That government even had time to find and identify concrete evidence of these persons' actions, their links, and their operational methods. For five years the topic was not mentioned, the topic was put away, and we saw how drug traffickers, with the support of the highest government authorities in Venezuela, even reached the Supreme Court. They even reached that point. So not to talk about it can also be bad.

[Alvarez] I am not saying we should not talk about it. I am saying we must not speculate on it. We have to talk and we must create awareness of the problem. We have to report on these people. I am not opposed to the idea of reporting on them. We have to report on them very firmly when something specific is detected, but I am saying it is not advisable to use this as an instrument of speculation because the fight against drug trafficking would be undermined. I am unaware of the reasons why this action was not immediately taken on that occasion, but I want to give credit to the government for at least conducting the investigation of the irregular activities in this regard. Unfortunately, no action was taken at that time or later.

[Granier] Former Interior Affairs Minister Luis Pinerua began taking action a year ago when he started to arrest....

[Alvarez, interrupting] Since then high-ranking Army officers have been linked to drug trafficking activities. There are political party leaders who are in jail or at least facing trial for this reason. Could you imagine that there are Catholic Church priests involved in this? They are also linked to the drug-trafficking problem according to the information we have available. There are suspicions that we are a good country for laundering money, not only from drug trafficking activities but from other illegal activities such as corruption. We continue to be confused about all of this.

Every time someone says something abroad, they say it is a maneuver to tarnish the image of Venezuela. It may be true, but we must not simply limit ourselves to saying it is a maneuver. We have to see if that maneuver is true or not. We must correct the things that need to be corrected in this country, of which there are many in that regard. That is why I am saying we must be radically ethical in the handling of public issues. We must act without hesitation because the threats are very, very serious. Drug consumption among young people is increasing in Venezuela and none of the governments we have had in Venezuela has, until today, implemented any programs or policy to fight it after the law was approved in 1984.

[Granier] A very important point in this regard is the opportunity that needs to be given to young people so that they can become involved in interesting and productive activities that will drive them away from this

type of temptation. Among the political leaders I know in Venezuela, I do not think there is any other leader as committed to sports as you are or more involved in sports as you, however, I have not heard you talk about sports. What happened?

[Alvarez] You will know about it when I present my sports programs. One speculates little with the things one respects the most. It is perhaps because I was brought up in the area of sports. I was active on sports teams and I am very much aware of the problems faced by the sports federations and associations. One respects competitive sports very much. One does not want to manipulate it and one runs the risk of being extremely timid.

I was talking about it on Saturday with Luis Aparicio [former Venezuelan major league baseball player] at a bullfight in Barquisimeto. We are old, good friends and we were talking precisely about that. We talked about the respect we both have for these things. He was giving me important support and some advice on the use of retired athletes to motivate young people. Last year I won an award as the sports governor of the year, which was granted by all Venezuelan sports federations.

You can be sure that soon we are going to present to the nation an integral sports, physical education, and recreation program. It will contain specific programs for the promotion of sports in the various parishes, school districts, and companies, as well as for the area of adult sports, which is extremely important because of the example it sets. We are going to link the sports program to the country's education philosophy. I am convinced that the values that are instilled in a young man in the world of sports are difficult to be acquired by any other means, especially in this stage in which Venezuela needs to be more competitive. We have to awaken and sow the idea that it is worthwhile to make sacrifices in the form of investments and personal efforts to achieve goals and to make achievements. The sense of solidarity is very important. Lone stars normally go nowhere. That is very important. I could continue talking about this. I become passionate when I touch this topic.

Do you know what is important in life? To put victories and defeats behind you very soon. That prepares you to face any situation in life. When you intensely practice any competitive sport, you very often visualize the problems you have in politics, in your profession, and in your family life in terms of that sports discipline. You know for example when someone is trying to steal a base, when the ball is wet, and when you have to bunt. All of these things come up in your practical life, at this point in your life, and they greatly help you face and overcome them with success.

[Granier] I hope to talk with you again once you have your program ready.

[Alvarez] It will be important and I am going to consult the Venezuelan Olympic Committee, the authorities from the National Sports Institute, which I believe has to disappear in its current form, the federations and associations, as well as the Association of Venezuelan Trainers and its affiliates across the country, with whom we have been meeting.

[Granier] I was wondering why you did not talk about this before.

[Alvarez] You touched my weak point. [laughs]

[Granier] Thank you, Oswaldo. Thank you viewers for tuning in. We will be back next Sunday at 2200 as usual.